

HISTORICAL DICTIONARY
of the

War of

1812



ROBERT MALCOMSON

**HISTORICAL DICTIONARIES
OF WAR, REVOLUTION, AND CIVIL UNREST
Edited by Jon Woronoff**

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Historical Dictionary of the War of 1812

Robert Malcomson

*Historical Dictionaries of War,
Revolution, and Civil Unrest, No. 31*



The Scarecrow Press, Inc.
Lanham, Maryland • Toronto • Oxford
2006

SCARECROW PRESS, INC.

Published in the United States of America
by Scarecrow Press, Inc.
A wholly owned subsidiary of
The Rowman & Littlefield Publishing Group, Inc.
4501 Forbes Boulevard, Suite 200, Lanham, Maryland 20706
www.scarecrowpress.com

PO Box 317
Oxford
OX2 9RU, UK

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Information Available

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Malcomson, Robert.

Historical dictionary of the War of 1812 / Robert Malcomson.

p. cm.— (Historical dictionaries of war, revolution, and civil unrest ; 31)

Includes bibliographical references.

ISBN-13: 978-0-8108-5499-4 (hardcover : alk. paper)


ISBN-10: 0-8108-5499-6 (hardcover : alk. paper)

1. United States—History—War of 1812—Dictionaries. 2. United States—History—1801–1809—Dictionaries. 3. United States—History—1809–1817—Dictionaries. I. Title. II. Series: Historical dictionaries of war, revolution, and civil unrest ; no. 31

E354.M25 2006

973.5'2'03—dc22

2005022965

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Manufactured in the United States of America.

In memory of
Ernest Alexander Cruikshank (1853–1939),
whose contribution to the study of the War of 1812
has yet to be equaled.

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Editor's Foreword

Some wars are decisive because they changed the face of the earth; others are decisive because they did not. The War of 1812, which is sometimes downplayed if not just overlooked, is in the latter category, which may explain much of the neglect. But it really was decisive as a second—and last—round in the lingering enmity between the mighty British Empire and the puny 13 colonies since reconstituted as the United States of America. For it allowed the continued existence of what became Canada while blocking American expansion to the north, although the same drive quickly expanded in other directions. This was just a sideshow for Britain, more vitally engaged in the Napoleonic Wars in Europe, and it was quite happy to return to that. For the United States, which obviously had better things to do than fight this war (and suffer the humiliation of having Washington burned to the ground), it was a success of sorts in that it was *not* defeated by the strongest military power of the time. But the real achievement was to sort out its military affairs, train a new generation of soldiers and sailors, and get started on creating what ultimately became the greatest military machine of all time.

This was a relatively short and simple war, to our way of thinking, but it was still amazingly complex with numerous battles and other encounters in several different theaters on land and at sea. It involved not just the British, Canadians, and Americans but assorted provinces and states and also the Native Americans. Then there were the ships (which frequently changed name) and the weaponry, numerous regiments and other units, and the military brass from generals and admirals on down. So the dictionary section has to be rather large just to account for them. With so many actions in so many places, the chronology is indispensable if one wishes to follow the events, right down to the glorious battle that took place after peace was concluded. The causes, course of the

war, and outcome are explained in the introduction. Finally, further details on all these aspects can be sought through the bibliography.

Historical Dictionary of the War of 1812 was written by one of the foremost authorities on the war. Robert Malcomson was an elementary school teacher in Canada until he retired in 2002. He was also and still is a freelance writer, with a particular interest in the War of 1812, on which he has been writing for two decades. He has already written numerous articles and is the author or coauthor of five books on the war, the most recent being *A Very Brilliant Affair: The Battle of Queenston Heights, 1812*. Of course, to write an encyclopedia on any war, it is necessary to do more than just marshal masses of facts; it is also essential to see the overall picture and especially avoid any temptation to take sides. Although a Canadian, Malcomson has made commendable efforts to let the facts speak rather than giving them a spin, and this is a book that should satisfy readers no matter what their personal position may be.

Jon Woronoff
Series Editor

Acknowledgments

I am pleased to acknowledge the valuable role that public institutions have played in helping me gather the information in this dictionary. As usual, at the top of my list is the staff of the Inter Library Loan Department in the James A. Gibson Library at Brock University, and right behind them are Lynne Prunskus and Edie William of the library's Special Collections and Archives. I extend my appreciation for the resources available in the following institutions: Niagara-on-the-Lake Public Library; Toronto Reference Library; Mills Memorial Library at McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario; the E. S. Bird Library at Syracuse University, Syracuse, New York; and the John P. Robarts Research Library at the University of Toronto. I have also benefited from my visits to the Archives of Ontario in Toronto; the Library and Archives Canada in Ottawa; the U.S. National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C.; and the National Archives (Public Record Office) of Britain in Kew, England.

The opportunity to conduct this project came as the result of a recommendation from Donald R. Hickey, for which I am very grateful; Don also made insightful comments about a draft of this work. I must acknowledge Gary Gibson's enduring generosity in sharing the voluminous sources he has acquired as well as his knowledge and enthusiasm for this topic. Eric Johnson also helped with his responses to an early version of the work. Valerie Drake generously gave me access to the resources of her late husband Frederick Drake. Instrumental in providing me with maps were Gene Smith and John Magill, Christopher George, and Richard Sherrill. These folks also helped steer me toward relevant references: Mary Lynn Fehler, David Grabitske, John Krueger, Thomas Malcomson, and Peter Rindlisbacher.

As always, my family, in particular my dear wife, Janet, has encouraged me throughout this project, knowing perfectly well that it was as much fun for me as it was hard work.

Reader's Note

Along with plenty of other complexities, the description of a war brings with it numerous technical issues. To help the reader sort out the many different units and warships, as well as several other matters, I offer this explanation.

The identification of American and British regiments presents a problem since many of them are identified by number, some of which were shared by units in opposite camps. To alleviate this, as well as to differentiate between the opposing armies in the individual entries, numerals have been used to identify the British regiments (e.g., the 13th Regiment of Foot), while the American units have been identified in words (e.g., the Thirteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry). In many cases the British regiments had more than one battalion, and to indicate this, the battalions have been further identified (e.g., the 1/41st, meaning the First Battalion of the 41st Foot). Some readers will be disappointed to find that similar steps have not been taken to identify specific regiments of militia in individual states and provinces. Even from the limited material available on the militia, it would be possible to show this information in part, but there is not room between these covers to provide those details.

Another technical matter that some well-versed authorities will note is that I have appended "First" to the names of the U.S. Regiment of Artillery, U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons, and U.S. Regiment of Rifles in every reference to them. During the period, it was not necessary to use the ordinal adjective until the creation of additional new regiments of artillery and dragoons in 1812 and of rifles in 1814. Even after this, some purists will contend, these regiments went by their original names. The ordinal has been added here, however, for the sake of clarity and is explained in the relevant entries.

The simultaneous use and the reuse of names for warships has caused

considerable confusion in the past. To differentiate among warships with the same names, launch or renaming dates have been appended to the names. For example, HMS *Confiance* (1796) was James Yeo's ship before the war, and when the U.S. Schooner *Julia* was prized in 1813, it was renamed the *Confiance* (1813). This latter vessel was then recaptured, and in August 1814, HMS *Confiance* (1814A) was launched on the Richelieu River just a few days before the U.S. Schooner *Tigress* was captured on Lake Huron and, unknowingly, renamed the *Confiance* (1814B).

Some basic data have been provided for many of the warships in order to allow for comparisons in their size and strength. These figures for HM Schooner *Confiance* (1814B)—60' 6" upper deck \times 17' 9" \times 5' 3" depth of hold, 52 tons—refer to its basic length \times width \times depth and its burthen. Sources of data differ as to how they measure length (upper deck, gun deck, lower deck, distance between perpendiculars), although all methods indicate the working area of the deck rather than the distance between the tips of spars extending from the bow and stern. Length of keel is another common statistic, but this measure was only about 80 percent of the deck length, so it has been used rarely in the entries. According to the source of the data, the "depth" of the hull is shown by a measurement of the depth of the hold or its draft in water. Burthen refers to the capacity of a hull (in contrast to the more modern measure of displacement) and was determined by various equations, which can make for an unequal comparison between vessels. As concerns armament, the *Confiance* (1814B) had one 32-pdr long gun in 1813, based on available sources, but not all records of armament are as cut and dry since captains frequently altered their "weight of metal." Crew totals are based on reported numbers, rated complement, or an approximation. To provide a "snapshot" of each warship's firepower, however, one or two documented lists of arms have been given; variations will, no doubt, be found in other sources. While elusive details such as the last modification of a broadside before battle or the method of linear measurement make the comparisons between some of the warships almost a matter of apples and oranges, it is hoped that these data will provide the reader with some reasonable general impressions.

Correct identification of aboriginal nations presents another dilemma since the historical record is more precise and complete about regiments and warships than it is about which warriors fought where. In addition,

some of the nations were intermingled and shared names; the names “Chippewa” and “Objiwa,” for example, were used at times to identify the same people. Every effort has been made to identify the native allies and the significant roles they played as accurately as records and space allow.

Time was not standardized in 1812, so one finds discrepancies between British/Canadian and American accounts. The Americans tended to set their clocks about one hour ahead of the British/Canadians, and since this more closely matches the current standard, it has been used for reference where the information was available and relevant.

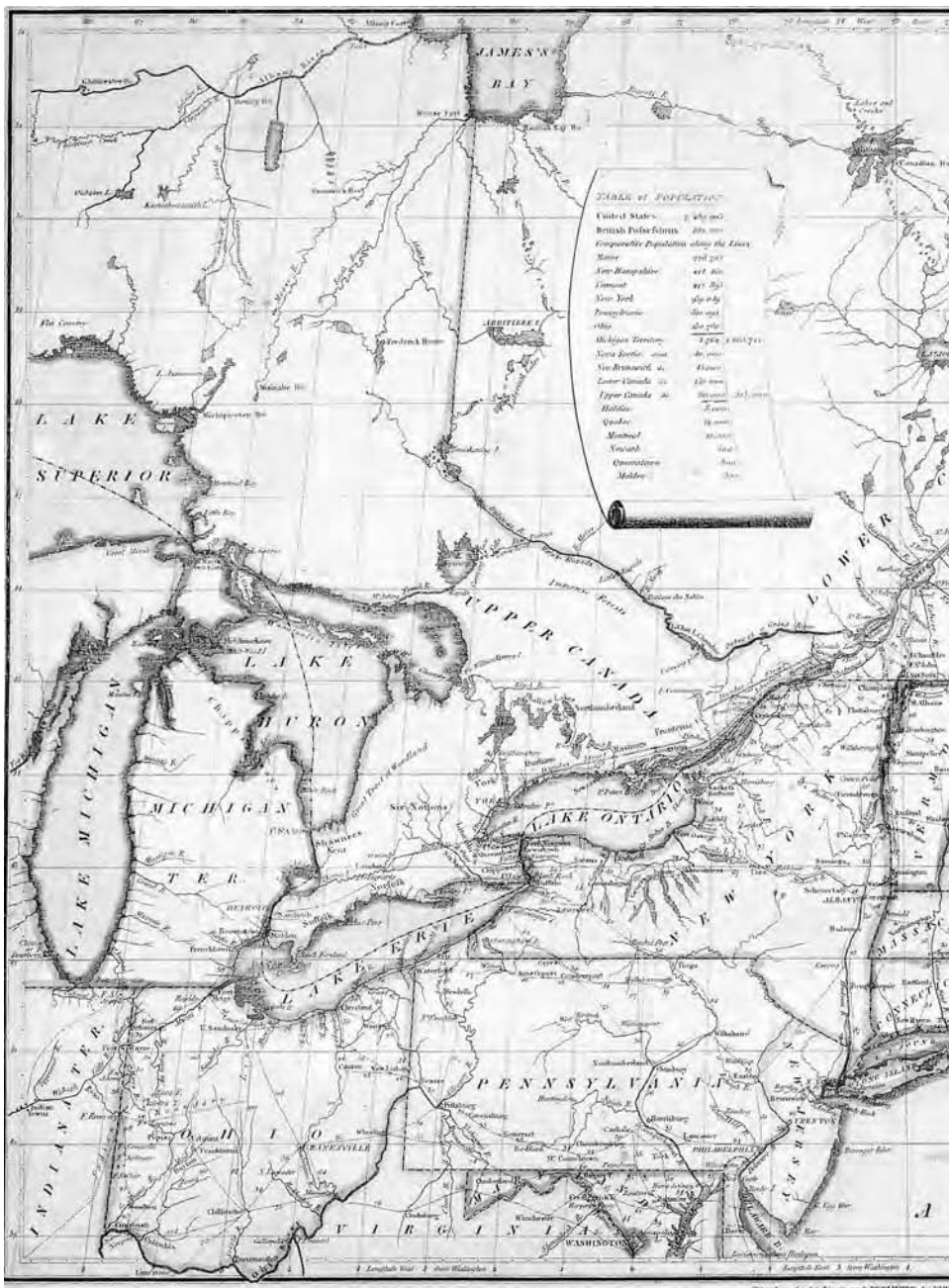
Entries for battles, skirmishes, raids, treaties, and the like appear under the name or location. For example, the entry for the **artillery duel at New Orleans, Louisiana**, will be found under: NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ARTILLERY DUEL AT.

Finally, instead of forming a separate section in the bibliography to cover the biographies and published memoirs, these have been grouped with the campaigns for which they are the most relevant. The numerous personal accounts relevant to each campaign have been arranged in the same way.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

BN A	British North America
bp	length between perpendiculars of a vessel
ca.	circa
CB	Knight Companion of the Bath
crde	carronade
dh	depth in hold of a vessel
dr	draft of a vessel
GCB	Knight Grand Cross of the Bath
gd	gun deck length of a vessel
HM	His Majesty('s)
HMS	His Majesty's Ship
KB	Knight Bachelor
KCB	Knight Commander of the Bath
KCH	Knight Commander of the Guelphic Order (of Hanover)
LC	Lower Canada
ld	lower deck length of a vessel
lg	long gun
pdr	pounder
PM	Provincial Marine
RN	Royal Navy
UC	Upper Canada
ud	upper deck length of a vessel
UK	United Kingdom
USN	United States Navy
USS	United States Ship

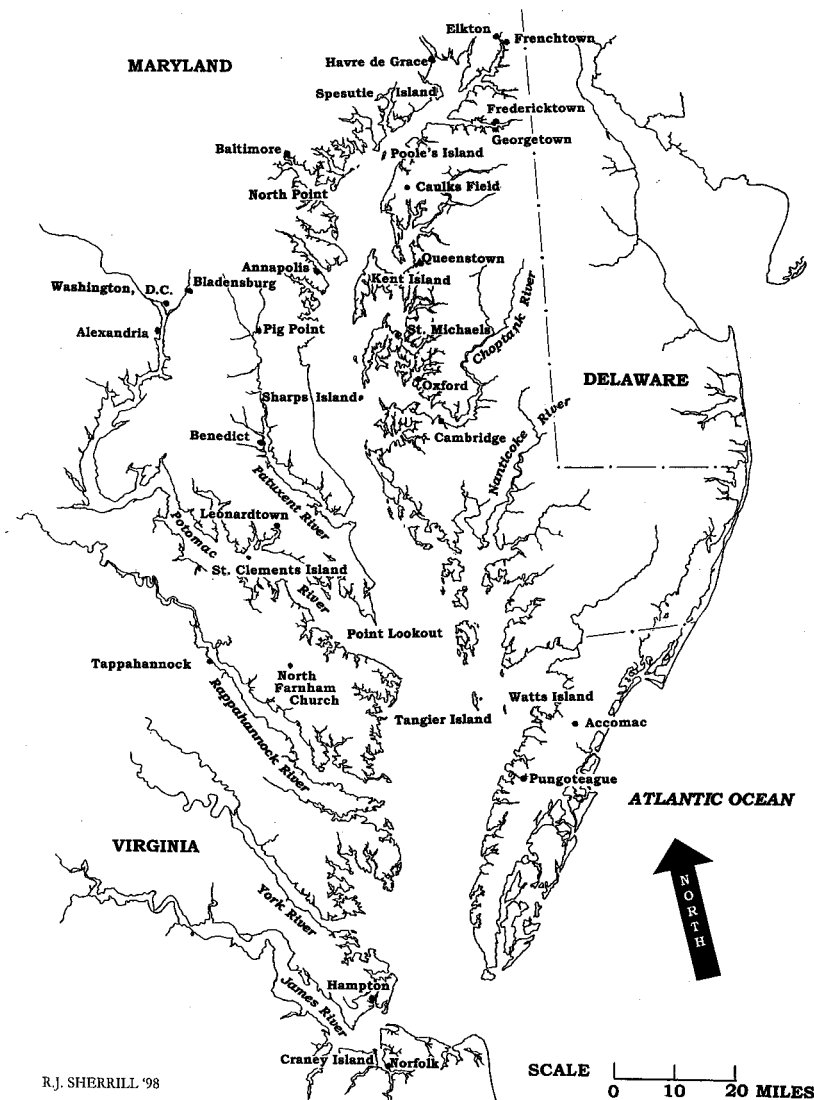
Maps



Western Detail of Map of the Seat of War in North America by John Melish, ca. 1813-1815. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, NMC 6760



Eastern Detail of Map of the Seat of War in North America by John Melish, ca. 1813-1815. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, NMC 6760



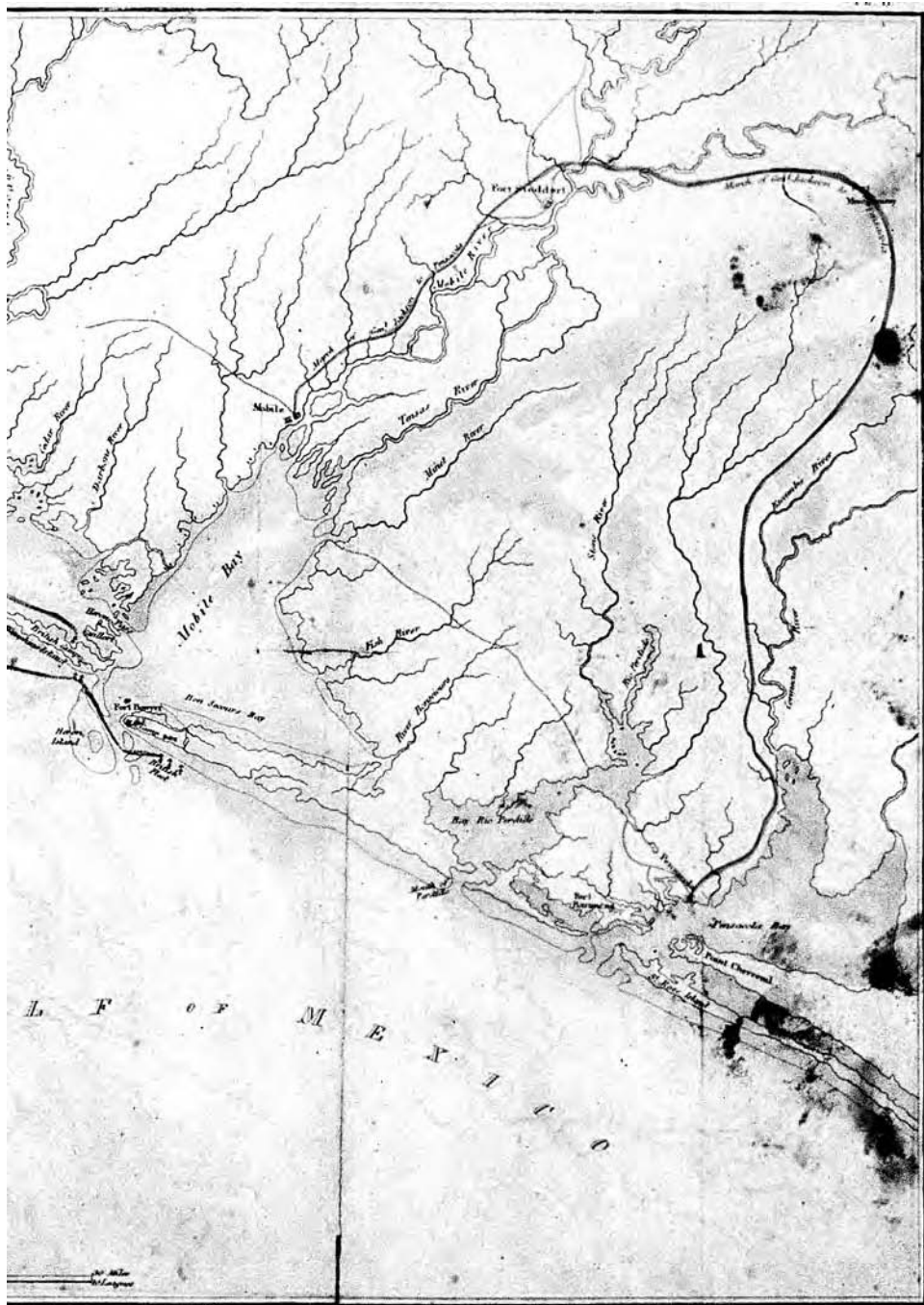
CHESAPEAKE BAY ARENA 1813 - 1814

Chesapeake Bay Arena, 1813–1814, by Richard Sherrill, ca. 2000. Courtesy of Richard Sherrill and Christopher T. George



Detail of New Orleans and Mississippi Delta from a General Map of the Seat of the War in Louisiana and West Florida, by Arsène Lacarrière Latour, ca. 1816.

Courtesy of the Historic New Orleans Collection, Accession No. 1980.32



Detail of Mobile and Pensacola from a General Map of the Seat of the War in Louisiana and West Florida, by Arsène Lacarrière Latour, ca. 1816. Courtesy of the Historic New Orleans Collection, Accession No. 1980.32

Chronology

1803 18 May: Britain declares war on France, ending the Treaty of Amiens.

1805 May/June: The *Essex* decision restricts trade of neutrals.

1806 18 April: The U.S. Congress passes the Nonimportation Act. **25 April:** HMS *Leander* (1780) fires on the American merchantman *Richard* to stop it for inspection and kills an American seaman. **16 May:** Britain declares, by an order in council, the limited “Fox Blockade.” **15 November:** The U.S. Nonimportation Act takes effect. **19 November:** The U.S. Nonimportation Act is suspended. **21 November:** Napoleon issues the Berlin Decree to declare blockade of Britain. **31 December:** Monroe-Pinkney Treaty signed in Britain.

1807 7 January: Britain declares an order in council banning trade to or from any enemy port by any neutral nation. **3 March:** President Jefferson rejects the Monroe-Pinkney Treaty. **22 June:** HMS *Leopard* fires on and detains the U.S. Ship *Chesapeake* off Chesapeake Bay to remove suspected British deserters. **11 November:** Britain declares an order in council requiring all neutral shipping to be inspected at British ports or be stopped and inspected on the high seas. **14 December:** The U.S. Nonimportation Act takes effect again. **17 December:** Napoleon issues the Milan Decree. **22 December:** The U.S. Congress passes the Embargo Act to prohibit American trade with foreign nations.

1808 17 April: Napoleon issues the Bayonne Decree.

1809 1 March: The U.S. Congress passes the Nonintercourse Act. **4 March:** The U.S. Embargo of December 1807 is repealed. James Madison is inaugurated as fourth president of the United States. **19 April:** U.S. and British representatives approve the Erskine Agreement at

Washington. **26 April:** Britain issues a new set of revised orders in council regarding the extent of blockades. **23 May:** The British cabinet rejects the Erskine Agreement. **30 September:** William Harrison and native representatives sign the Treaty of Fort Wayne.

1810 23 March: Napoleon issues the Rambouillet Decree. **1 May:** The U.S. Congress passes Macon's Bill No. 2. **5 August:** The U.S. minister to France, John Armstrong, receives the Cadore letter in Paris. The French Trianon Tariff goes into effect. **18 October:** Napoleon issues the Fontainebleau Decree regarding smuggling. **2 November:** President Madison proclaims that the Nonintercourse Act will be reinvoked against Britain in the new year.

1811 2 March: The U.S. Congress invokes the Nonintercourse Act of March 1809, with revisions, against Britain only. **16 May:** The USS *President* fires on HM Sloop *Little Belt* off Chesapeake Bay, suspecting, incorrectly, its hostile intentions. **14 September:** Lieutenant General Sir George Prevost assumes command as governor in chief of British North America at Quebec. Prevost orders Major General Isaac Brock to assume command as president and administrator of the government and forces in UC. **5 November:** President James Madison's annual address goes to U.S. Congress. **7 November:** Native forces under the Prophet attack Governor William Harrison's force on the Tippecanoe River.

1812 9 March: Madison sends the John Henry Letters to the U.S. Congress. **4 April:** The U.S. Congress enacts the 90-day Embargo Act. **11 May:** Prime Minister Spencer Perceval is assassinated in London. **1 June:** Madison sends secret war message to the U.S. Congress. **4 June:** The U.S. House of Representatives passes a war bill, 79 to 49. **5 June:** The U.S. Brig *Oneida* seizes the British merchantman *Lord Nelson* on Lake Ontario under the Embargo Act. **8 June:** Lord Liverpool, as prime minister, forms a new government. **17 June:** The U.S. Senate passes the War Bill, 19 to 13. **18 June:** Madison signs the War Bill into law, declaring war on Britain. **22 June:** A mob loyal to the government attacks a Federalist newspaper in Baltimore in the first of a series of riots. **23 June:** The British government formally revokes its orders in council of 1807 and 1809. **26 June:** Word reaches Quebec that the Americans have declared war. A small American force captures Carleton Island on the upper St. Lawrence River. **29 June:** Word of war reaches Halifax. **2**

July: The British capture Hull's supply vessel, the *Cuyahoga Packet*, in the Detroit River. **3 July:** U.S. forces under Brigadier General William Wadsworth reach the Niagara River. **5 July:** Brigadier General William Hull's Army of the Northwest reaches Detroit. **9 July:** Hull receives Secretary of War William Eustis's order to invade UC from Detroit. **12 July:** Hull's Army of the Northwest crosses the Detroit River to invade southwestern UC. **13 July:** Governor Daniel Tompkins orders Major General Stephen Van Rensselaer to take command of U.S. forces on the Niagara River. **17 July:** A British force from St. Joseph Island captures Fort Mackinac on Machilimackinac Island, Lake Huron. The RN squadron under Captain Philip Broke captures the U.S. Brig *Nautilus* off New York City. **19 July:** The British Provincial Marine squadron bombards Sackets Harbor. **30 July:** Dispatches reach Quebec showing that the British government has repealed orders in council. **31 July:** The U.S. Schooner *Julia* engages the Provincial Marine vessels *Earl of Moira* and *Duke of Gloucester* on the upper St. Lawrence River near Elizabethtown, UC. **5 August:** A small British force cuts Hull's supply line from Detroit to Frenchtown in a skirmish at Brownstown, Michigan. **7 August:** Hull begins his withdrawal to Detroit. **8 August:** The Prevost-Dearborn Armistice is announced. **9 August:** An American force fails to reestablish the supply line from Detroit to Frenchtown after a skirmish at Maguaga, Michigan. **13 August:** Major General Isaac Brock arrives at Fort Amherstburg with a reinforcement of militia and regulars. The USS *Essex* captures HM Sloop *Alert* near the Azores. **15 August:** A large force of Potawatomi attacks the U.S. garrison and its followers as they begin a withdrawal from Fort Dearborn to Fort Wayne. Madison orders Dearborn to terminate the Prevost-Dearborn Armistice. **16 August:** Brock forces Hull's surrender at Detroit. **19 August:** The USS *Constitution* destroys HMS *Guerrière* 500 miles southeast of Newfoundland. **3 September:** Captain Isaac Chauncey receives orders to build up the USN on the Great Lakes. Kickapoo warriors massacre settlers at Pigeon Roost, Indiana Territory. **3–16 September:** Native warriors invest Fort Harrison, Indiana Territory. **5–8 September:** Sauk and Fox warriors invest Fort Madison. **5–12 September:** Potawatomi warriors invest Fort Wayne. **8 September:** The Prevost-Dearborn Armistice ends on the Niagara River. **16 September:** The New York militia fail to intercept supply convoy at Toussaint's Island, St. Lawrence River. **17 September:** Madison gives Brigadier General William Har-

rison command of the Army of the Northwest. **21 September:** U.S. regulars and militia raid Gananoque, UC. Czar Alexander I offers to mediate a peace agreement. **27 September:** Admiral Sir John Warren assumes command of the RN North American Station at Halifax. **1 October:** The PM raids Charlotte, New York. **4 October:** British regulars and UC Militia fail in attempt to attack Ogdensburg, New York. Lieutenant Thomas Macdonough receives orders to take command of USN forces on Lake Champlain. **6 October:** Chauncey reaches Sackets Harbor and takes command on the Great Lakes. **8 October:** Macdonough arrives at Burlington, Vermont, to take command of the U.S. naval force. **9 October:** U.S. regulars and New York militia capture the PM Brigs *Caledonia* and *Detroit* at Fort Erie, UC. **13 October:** The British stop Van Rensselaer's attempt to invade UC at the battle of Queenston Heights. Brock is killed. Major General Roger Sheaffe assumes command as president and administrator of the government and forces in UC. **16 October:** Brigadier General Alexander Smyth takes command of the U.S. Army on the Niagara River. **18 October:** The U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1805) captures HM Sloop *Frolic* west of Bermuda; HMS *Poictiers* appears late in the day and takes possession of both badly damaged vessels. **23 October:** New York militia capture Akwesasne (St. Regis) on the St. Lawrence River. **25 October:** The USS *United States* captures HMS *Macedonian* 500 miles west of the Canary Islands. **10 November:** Chauncey's squadron chases the *Royal George* into Kingston. **19–20 November:** Dearborn's attempt to invade LC fails with a skirmish at Lacolle, LC. **22 November:** HMS *Southampton* captures the U.S. Brig *Vixen* (1803) near the Bahamas. **23 November:** British regulars and UC militia recapture Akwesane and raid French Mills, New York. **27 November:** The British government orders a blockade of Chesapeake and Delaware Bays. **28 November:** Smyth fails in first attempt to begin invasion of UC on the upper Niagara River. **1 December:** Smyth fails in second attempt at invasion and terminates the campaign. **3 December:** Secretary of War William Eustis resigns. **17–18 December:** U.S. and native forces clash in the battle on the Mississinewa River, Indiana Territory. **29 December:** The USS *Constitution* destroys HMS *Java* off Brazil. **31 December:** U.S. Secretary of the Navy Paul Hamilton resigns.

1813 9 January: Britain proclaims state of war with the United States. **12 January:** William Jones becomes the U.S. secretary of the

navy. **13 January:** John Armstrong becomes the U.S. secretary of war. **17 January:** HMS *Narcissus* captures the U.S. Brig *Viper* in the Gulf of Mexico. **18 January:** A U.S. force under Brigadier General James Winchester captures Frenchtown, Michigan. **22 January:** A British force under Colonel Henry Procter annihilates Winchester's force at Frenchtown, Michigan. **7 February:** A small American force raids Brockville, UC. **8 February:** Master Commandant Oliver Perry, USN, is ordered to Chauncey's command. **22 February:** British attacks Ogdensburg, New York. **24 February:** The U.S. Sloop *Hornet* destroys HM Sloop *Peacock* off Guyana, South America. **3 March:** Rear Admiral George Cockburn arrives in Chesapeake Bay. **10 March:** Major General James Wilkinson is ordered to join Dearborn on the Niagara Frontier. **13 March:** Warren joins Cockburn in Chesapeake Bay. **26 March:** Warren extends the blockade to cover the ports of New York City; Charleston and Port Royal, South Carolina; Savannah, Georgia; and the Mississippi River. **3 April:** The RN capture four U.S. privateers in the Rappahannock River, Virginia. **15 April:** A U.S. force occupies Mobile, Mississippi Territory. **27 April:** A U.S. force under Dearborn and Chauncey captures York, UC. **29 April:** Cockburn raids Frenchtown, Maryland. **1 May:** Procter's brigade begins siege of Fort Meigs, Ohio. **3 May:** Cockburn raids Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry, Maryland. **5 May:** British and U.S. forces battle at Fort Meigs. **6 May:** Cockburn raids Georgetown and Fredericktown, Maryland. **9 May:** Procter lifts siege of Fort Meigs. **11 May:** U.S. peace commissioners Albert Gallatin and James Bayard leave the United States for Russia. **15 May:** Commodore Sir James Yeo, RN, assumes command at Kingston. **27 May:** A U.S. force under Dearborn and Chauncey captures Fort George, UC. **29 May:** A British force fails to capture Sacket's Harbor, New York; Prevost is present. **1 June:** HMS *Shannon* captures the USS *Chesapeake* off Massachusetts. **3 June:** A British force captures the U.S. Sloops *Eagle* and *Growler* near Isle-aux-Noix, LC. **5 June:** A torpedo attack on HMS *Victorious* in Chesapeake Bay fails. **6 June:** British and U.S. forces clash in the battle of Stoney Creek, UC, prompting U.S. retreat to Fort George. **15 June:** Yeo raids Charlotte, New York. **19 June:** Yeo raids Sodus, New York. Major General Francis de Rottenburg assumes command as president and administrator of the government and forces in UC. **20 June:** U.S. gunboats fail to capture HMS *Junon* at Hampton Roads, Virginia. **22 June:** A British force fails to

seize Craney Island, Virginia. **24 June:** A U.S. expedition is captured in the battle of Beaver Dams, UC. **25–26 June:** A British force captures and sacks Hampton, Virginia. **1 July:** De Rottenburg initiates a blockade of the U.S. Army at Fort George, UC. **5 July:** The British raid Fort Schlosser, New York. **8 July:** British and U.S. forces skirmish at the Ball property near Fort George. **11 July:** The British raid Black Rock, New York. **14 July:** The British skirmish with part of the Potomac flotilla in the Yeocomico River, Virginia. **12–16 July:** Cockburn raids Ocracoke Inlet, North Carolina. **17 July:** Another skirmish occurs at the Ball property. **19 July:** Some New York Militia ambush a British detachment at Cranberry Creek, New York. **21 July:** Procter's force invests Fort Meigs, Ohio. Gallatin and Bayard reach St. Petersburg, Russia. **24 July:** A torpedo attack on HMS *Plantagenet* in Chesapeake Bay fails. **25 July:** The New York Six Nations declare war on Britain. **28 July:** Procter ends the investment of Fort Meigs, Ohio. **29 July:** USN gunboats fail to capture HM Sloop *Martin* in Delaware Bay. **29 July–4 August:** A British force under Colonel John Murray raids American villages and towns on Lake Champlain. **31 July–1 August:** Chauncey lands a military force to occupy and raid York, UC. **2 August:** The U.S. Congress passes an act to prohibit the use of British trade licenses. Procter's force fails to capture Fort Stephenson, Ohio. **8 August:** The U.S. Schooners *Hamilton* and *Scourge* sink in a storm in western Lake Ontario. **10 August:** Yeo captures the U.S. Schooners *Julia* and *Growler* south of York, UC. **14 August:** Another skirmish occurs at the Ball property, near Fort George, UC. HM Sloop *Pelican* captures the U.S. Sloop *Argus* near Ireland. **20 August:** Wilkinson arrives at Sackets Harbor, New York, to take command of the Ninth Military District. **24 August:** Prevost observes de Rottenburg's force making a "demonstration" against American lines at Fort George, UC. **4 September:** Wilkinson moves headquarters to Fort George, UC. **5 September:** Armstrong arrives at Sackets Harbor, New York. The U.S. Brig *Enterprise* captures HM Sloop *Boxer* off Portland, Maine. **10 September:** Perry's Lake Erie squadron defeats and captures the British squadron in the battle of Put-in-Bay, Ohio. **11 September:** Chauncey and Yeo's squadrons engage off the mouth of the Genesee River, New York. **20 September:** A U.S. army under Major General Wade Hampton skirmishes with the British at Odelltown, LC. **22 September:** Procter begins his withdrawal from Fort Amherstburg, UC. **23 September:** The

USS *President* captures HM Schooner *High Flyer* off Florida. **27 September:** Harrison's army, in Perry's squadron, lands in UC and occupies Fort Amherstburg. **28 September:** Chauncey and Yeo clash in the "Burlington Races" engagement on western Lake Ontario. **2 October:** Wilkinson's army leaves Niagara for Sackets Harbor, New York. **5 October:** Harrison's army catches up to Procter at Moraviantown, UC, and captures most of his force. **6 October:** Chauncey captures a troop convoy near Kingston, UC. **9 October:** Major General Francis de Rottenburg ends blockade of Fort George and withdraws his army to Burlington. **12 October:** A detachment of Hampton's army raids Misisquoi Bay, LC. **13 October:** A UC Militia detachment attacks and captures raiders at Nanticoke, UC. **26 October:** A British force under Lieutenant Colonel Charles de Salaberry defeats Hampton's army in the battle of Chateauguay, LC. **1–2 November:** Wilkinson's advance force skirmishes with some of Yeo's squadron at French Creek, New York. **10 November:** Wilkinson's advance force skirmishes with UC Militia at Hoople's Creek, UC. **11 November:** A British force under Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Morrison beats Wilkinson's army in the battle of Crysler's Farm, UC. **13 November:** Wilkinson ends his campaign and forms a camp at French Mills, New York. **16 November:** Warren extends the blockade to include the American coastline from Long Island Sound to the southern limit of Georgia and the area around the Mississippi River. **3 December:** Lieutenant General Gordon Drummond assumes command as president and administrator of the government and forces in UC at Kingston. **10–11 December:** The remaining U.S. detachments burn Niagara, UC, before withdrawing to New York. **15 December:** British and U.S. detachments skirmish at McCrea's Farm on the Thames River, UC. **16 December:** Drummond arrives on the Niagara Peninsula, UC. **17 December:** The U.S. Congress enacts a new Embargo Act. **18–19 December:** Colonel John Murray leads a British force to capture Fort Niagara, New York. **19 December:** The British raid Lewiston, New York. **21 December:** The British raid Manchester, New York. **25 December:** HMS *Belvidera* captures the U.S. Schooner *Vixen* (1813) off the mid-Atlantic seaboard. **30 December:** The British raid and burn Black Rock, Buffalo, and other Niagara Frontier settlements.

1814 14–24 February: British detachments raid settlements near the Salmon River, New York. **16 February:** Armstrong appoints Major

General Jacob Brown to command Left Division of the U.S. Army in the Ninth Military District. **4 March:** A British patrol skirmishes with U.S. raiders at the Longwoods, UC. **22 March:** Wilkinson sends a detachment to raid Missisquoi Bay, Vermont. **25 March:** A torpedo attack on HMS *La Hogue* off Connecticut fails. **28 March:** HMS *Phoebe* and HM Sloop *Cherub* capture the USS *Essex* at Valparaiso, Chile. **30 March:** A British force fights off Wilkinson's last invasion effort at Lacolle Mill, LC. **1 April:** Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane replaces Warren on the North America Station. **6 April:** Napoleon abdicates. Cockburn occupies Tangier Island, Chesapeake Bay. **7 April:** An RN force destroys shipping at Pettipaug Point, Connecticut, in retaliation for torpedo attack on HMS *La Hogue*. **13 April:** U.S. peace commissioners Henry Clay and Jonathan Russell reach Gothenburg, Sweden. **14 April:** The Embargo Act of December 1813 is repealed. **20 April:** HMS *Orpheus* and HM Schooner *Shelburne* capture the U.S. Sloop *Frolic* in Florida Straits. **25 April:** Cochrane extends blockade to include New England. **26 April:** Captain Arthur Sinclair arrives to take command of the USN on the upper lakes at Erie, Pennsylvania. **29 April:** The U.S. Sloop *Peacock* captures HM Sloop *Epervier* off Florida. **6 May:** Yeo and Drummond successfully attack supply line at Oswego, New York. **10 May:** An RN detachment, under Cochrane's orders, lands in Florida to confer with Creek chiefs. **14 May:** An RN raid fails to interrupt Macdonough's shipbuilding at Otter Creek, Vermont. **14–15 May:** A U.S. force from Erie raids Port Dover, UC, and environs. **23 May:** The assize to try traitors begins at Ancaster, UC. **30 May:** A U.S. force captures an RN detachment at Sandy Creek, New York. **29 May:** A detachment of Cockburn's force skirmishes with Virginia Militia at Pungoteague Creek. **1 June:** Captain Robert Barrie, RN, engages Captain Joshua Barney's USN gunboat flotilla off Cedar Point, Maryland. **2 June:** A U.S. force occupies Prairie du Chien (Wisconsin) on the upper Mississippi River. **6 June:** Brown arrives at Buffalo, New York, to prepare his army for the summer campaign. **8 June:** Cockburn's detachments begin skirmishing with Barney's flotilla at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland. **18 June:** Sinclair sets out from Erie, Pennsylvania, for upper-lakes campaign. **22 June:** HMS *Leander* (1813) captures the U.S. Brig *Rattlesnake* off Cape Sable, Nova Scotia. **24 June:** The American submersible *Turtle* is destroyed on Long Island, New York. **26 June:** Barney's flotilla escapes from St. Leonard's

Creek and flees up the Patuxent River, Maryland. **28 June:** The U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813B) captures HM Sloop *Reindeer* south of Ireland. British and U.S. patrols skirmish at Odelltown, LC. **3 July:** Brown's army crosses the Niagara River and captures Fort Erie, UC. **5 July:** Brown's army defeats Riall's force at Chippawa, UC. **11 July:** A British expedition captures and occupies Eastport on Moose Island, Maine. **12 July:** HMS *Medway* captures the U.S. Sloop *Siren* off South Africa. **14 July:** Sinclair's expedition enters Lake Huron. **17–20 July:** A British force under Major William McKay lays siege to, and forces the surrender of, Fort Shelby (Prairie du Chien). **18 July:** One of Brown's patrols burns St. Davids, UC. **20 July:** Sinclair reaches St. Joseph's Island and burns deserted fort and buildings. Eight Canadians are hung as traitors at Ancaster, UC. **21 July:** A native force skirmishes with, and repels, a U.S. force heading to relieve Fort Shelby at the Rock Island Rapids, Illinois. **22 July:** Harrison signs a peace treaty with various native representatives at Greenville, Ohio. **23–26 July:** A detachment from Sinclair's force raids St. Mary River, UC. **25 July:** Brown and Drummond's armies clash in the bloody battle of Lundy's Lane, UC. **3 August:** A British raid is repelled in a sharp skirmish at Conjocta Creek, New York. Drummond advances to invest Fort Erie, UC. **4 August:** Sinclair and Groghan's assault on Michilimackinac fails. Chauncey's squadron arrives off Niagara too late to help Brown. **5 August:** Drummond begins the siege of Fort Erie, UC. Chauncey's squadron chases HM Schooner *Magnet* and forces its crew to destroy it at 10 Mile Creek, UC. **8 August:** U.S. and British peace commissioners hold first meeting at Ghent, Dutch Flanders. **9 August:** Major General Andrew Jackson finalizes a peace treaty with the Creek nation at Fort Jackson, Mississippi Territory. **9–12 August:** British conduct a bombardment of Stonington, Connecticut. **10 August:** Armstrong orders Major General George Izard to march the main strength of his army at Plattsburgh to Sackets Harbor, New York. A Royal Marine detachment, under Cochrane's orders, lands in Florida to form alliance with Creek warriors. **12 August:** An RN detachment captures the U.S. Schooners *Ohio* and *Somers* at Fort Erie, UC. **13 August:** Sinclair's force destroys the *Nancy* at Nottawasaga River, UC. **14 August:** Cochrane joins Cockburn in the Chesapeake with Major General Robert Ross and a large military force. **15 August:** Drummond's assault on Fort Erie fails miserably. **17 August:** Captain James Gordon, RN, begins his di-

versionary expedition up the Potomac River. **18 August:** Cockburn and Ross begin their expedition up the Patuxent River. **22 August:** Barney destroys his flotilla to prevent its capture near Nottingham, Maryland. **24 August:** Ross's army defeats U.S. forces under Brigadier General William Winder in the battle of Bladensburg, Maryland. **24–25 August:** Ross and Cockburn occupy and burn public buildings at Washington. **27 August:** The U.S. garrison at Fort Washington, on the Potomac, destroy the fort to prevent its capture by Gordon's squadron. **27–31 August:** Gordon's force occupies Alexandria, Virginia. **29 August:** Izard departs from Plattsburgh, New York, for Sackets Harbor, New York. **30 August:** Prevost's advance corps crosses into New York at the head of a large invasion force. **31 August:** Sinclair returns to Erie, Pennsylvania. **1 September:** A British force under Lieutenant General Sir John Sherbrooke captures and occupies Castine, Maine. The U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813B) destroys HM Sloop *Avon* south of Ireland. **3 September:** Captain John Rodgers, USN, fails to destroy Gordon's squadron with fireships. The British seize Hampden and Bangor, Maine, causing the crew of the USS *Adams* to destroy their vessel to prevent its capture. A British detachment under Lieutenant Miller Worsley, RN, captures the U.S. Schooner *Tigress* near St. Joseph Island, Lake Huron. Captain George Downie, RN, arrives at Isle-aux-Noix, LC, to take command of Lake Champlain squadron. **5 September:** Captain Oliver Perry fails to destroy Gordon's squadron from a battery on the Potomac. Natives and some British regulars repel a second U.S. relief force heading to Fort Shelby at the Rock Island Rapids, Illinois. **6 September:** Prevost's army begins to occupy Plattsburgh, New York. Worsley's men capture the U.S. Schooner *Scorpion* near St. Joseph Island, Lake Huron. **11 September:** Macdonough's squadron beats, and captures most of, Downie's squadron in the battle of Plattsburgh, New York. Prevost calls off a land attack and withdraws. British capture and occupy Machias, Maine. **12 September:** Cochrane and Ross initiate their attack on Baltimore, but Ross is killed while the British force beats off a U.S. force in the battle of North Point, east of Baltimore, but then halts. Prevost's army returns to LC. **13–14 September:** Cochrane's vessels bombard Fort McHenry and attempt to land, but American resistance is too strong. **15 September:** Cochrane withdraws from Baltimore, Maryland. An RN force fails to capture Fort Bowyer at Mobile, Mississippi Territory. **17 September:** Brown's army attacks Drummond's siege lines in

a bloody sortie from Fort Erie, UC. Drummond orders the siege of Fort Erie to be lifted. Izard's army reaches Sackets Harbor, New York. **23 September:** Chauncey's squadron lands Izard's army at the Genesee River, New York. **10 October:** Izard army arrives on the Niagara River and takes command from Brown. **15 October:** Izard makes a demonstration with his army before Drummond at the Chippawa Creek, then withdraws. **19 October:** A large detachment of Izard's army skirmishes with part of Drummond's force at Cook's Mills, UC. **22 October:** A large raiding party under U.S. Brigadier General Duncan McArthur leaves Detroit. **5 November:** Izard blows up Fort Erie, UC; withdraws to Buffalo, New York; and ends the campaign. **6 November:** McArthur's force routes UC Militia in skirmish at Malcolm's Mills, UC. **7 November:** A U.S. army under Major General Andrew Jackson captures Pensacola, Florida. **17 November:** McArthur returns to Detroit. **24 November:** Cochrane arrives at Jamaica to undertake a large naval and military expedition against New Orleans. **14 December:** A USN gunboat flotilla falls to an RN boat attack in the battle of Lake Borgne near New Orleans. **15 December:** Federalist representatives meet for a convention Hartford, Connecticut. **23 December:** The British force under Major General John Keane and Cochrane forms its camp at the Villéré plantation below New Orleans and is attacked in the night by Jackson's force. **24 December:** The peace commissioners sign the Treaty of Ghent. **28 December:** Now commanded by Major General Sir Edward Pakenham, the British make a reconnaissance in force at New Orleans and are repelled by Jackson's army. The British Parliament ratifies the Treaty of Ghent.

1815 1 January: Pakenham initiates an artillery duel against Jackson's defensive line but cannot breach it. **5 January:** The Hartford Convention ends. **8 January:** Pakenham launches the grand assault at New Orleans, but Jackson's army destroys the British force and kills Pakenham. Major General John Lambert assumes command. **9 January:** Lambert and Cochrane begin the long retreat from New Orleans. A squadron of small RN vessels begins bombardment of Fort St. Philip on the lower Mississippi River. **10 January:** British naval and military force occupies Cumberland Island, Georgia. **12 January:** The British seize St. Mary's, Georgia. **13–15 January:** HMS *Majestic* *Endymion*, *Pomone*, and *Tenedos* chase and capture the USS *President* off New

York City. **17 January:** Cockburn arrives to command at Cumberland Island, Georgia. **18 January:** The RN ends bombardment of Fort St. Philip in the Mississippi delta without accomplishing success. **4 February:** The U.S. Congress passes a new Nonintercourse Act. **12 February:** Lambert and Cochrane capture Fort Bowyer at Mobile, Mississippi Territory. **16 February:** The U.S. government completes ratification of the Treaty of Ghent. **20 February:** The USS *Constitution* captures HMS *Cyane* and HM Sloop *Levant* off Madeira. **26 February:** The U.S. privateer *Chasseur* captures HM Schooner *St. Lawrence* south of Florida. **1 March:** Prevost receives confirmation that the Treaty of Ghent has been approved by British and U.S. governments. **2 March:** Prevost receives recall to England. **3 March:** The U.S. Congress passes legislation to repeal relevant trade restrictions. **11 March:** An RN squadron led by HMS *Leander* (1813) chases the USS *Constitution* and its two RN prizes and recaptures the prize *Levant* near Cape Verde Islands. **18 March:** Cockburn evacuates Cumberland Island, Georgia. **23 March:** The U.S. Sloop *Hornet* captures HM Sloop *Penguin* near Tristan de Cunha. **27–29 March:** HMS *Cornwallis* chases but fails to capture the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* in the South Atlantic. **6 April:** A disturbance occurs involving American prisoners of war at the Dartmoor Prison in England and is later termed a massacre. **28 April:** The British end their occupation of eastern Maine and withdraw to Halifax. **30 June:** The U.S. Sloop *Peacock* illegally captures the East India Company Bombay Marine Brig *Nautilus* in the Straits of Sunda off Java. **1 July:** Peace negotiations begin with aboriginal nations at Portage-des-Sioux, near St. Louis, Missouri Territory. **8 September:** Harrison and McArthur sign the Treaty of Spring Wells with various aboriginal nations. **18 September:** Last of this set of treaties signed at Portage-des-Sioux, Missouri Territory.

Introduction

It has been called the “Forgotten Conflict.” The War of 1812 took place at a time when the world at large was preoccupied with the Napoleonic struggles in Europe and elsewhere. In the North American chronology, it fell between the War of Independence and the Civil War, both of which produced libraries full of books. Little wonder it is that the stories of these wars have left little room on the shelves of bookstores for the War of 1812 literature.

No set of trifling circumstances prompted the United States to declare war on Britain in June 1812, however. And, though American leaders drew up blindly unrealistic plans at first, their intent posed a direct threat to the British/Canadian settlers and the native peoples living around the Great Lakes. Battles, steadily growing in intensity, raged on both sides of the border as the names of hitherto unknown officers and warriors became household names. Britain gradually committed men and arms to the conflict until Wellington’s own veterans had joined the fray. Broadships roared on river, lake, and ocean; the president’s mansion burned; and Andrew Jackson held the line.

In the end, the North American community was altered. While the native peoples were left to struggle for their existence, Americans and Canadians retold the stories of the war, honoring their heroes and promulgating their legends. Thousands of booklets and pamphlets, articles, poems, and songs have been written about the war, many of its moments pictured on paper, canvas, and film. With the bicentennial of the conflict drawing near, there is every evidence that the War of 1812 will soon not be so “forgotten.”

CAUSES OF THE WAR

When the Peace of Amiens failed and Britain declared war on France in May 1803, the events leading to the War of 1812 were set in motion.

They quickly involved two threats to American sovereignty: the right for merchants to trade freely and the right for seamen to sail unmolested under the American flag. Though distinct issues, these matters were inextricably intertwined.

By its might alone, Britain was able to impose the Rule of 1756 and seize neutral vessels trading between France and its colonies. British courts upheld the rule with the *Essex* decision in the spring of 1805, much to the protest of American merchants whose profits were already suffering. Nelson's glorious victory at the battle of Trafalgar (21 October 1805) greatly diminished French sea power, allowing the Royal Navy (RN) to focus more closely on merchantmen and, from May 1806, blockade French ports. The U.S. government prepared to retaliate by limiting British imports, but representatives of the two nations nearly resolved the differences with the Monroe-Pinkney Treaty late in 1806. President Thomas Jefferson, however, rejected the agreement, in part because it had not addressed the problem of impressment.

Britain's naval strength also made it possible for RN officers to press suspected British subjects into service from neutral merchantmen in the same way that they could lift them off the streets of Portsmouth, England. No claim of naturalization or certification of an American birthplace could save a seaman who looked worth his salt. This insult to the right of citizenship had caused problems between the nations in the 1790s, and it sparked outrage again in April 1806, when HMS *Leander* ordered a merchantman to stop off New York City and killed an American seaman with its warning shot. But the real flash point came on 22 June 1807, when HMS *Leopard* fired on the USS *Chesapeake* off Chesapeake Bay after Commodore James Barron refused to allow his crew to be mustered and inspected. Totally unprepared for a fight, the *Chesapeake* suffered badly, and the British ended up removing four suspected deserters.

The *Chesapeake-Leopard* Affair nearly provoked war all by itself, but after diplomatic retaliations and the passing of legislation to strengthen the armed forces, Jefferson ended up with an embargo on trade that hurt his own nation more than it did his enemies. Meanwhile, Britain and France upped the ante with a series of orders in council and decrees that closed most of Europe to neutrals. President James Madison took office in March 1809 and tried to find a middle road with one belligerent or the other but failed, and merchants, particularly those in

the South and West, still bemoaned their lost markets, ships, and cargoes; New Englanders were opposed to American restrictions to their trade with Britain.

Into this context came the group of Republican legislators who became known as the “War Hawks.” The election of 1810 sent dozens of new congressmen and senators to Washington who believed that there had been enough talk and that the nation’s honor needed to be upheld. Although they frequently criticized Napoleon’s decrees, Britain became the main object of their protests. This was fueled by the worsening hostilities between settlers and the aboriginal nations in the Old Northwest. Britain had worked for decades (rather ineffectually at times) to cultivate ties with the natives, and many Americans saw this as a surreptitious campaign to harness American rights to expand westward. The rise of Tecumseh exacerbated American fears, and William Henry Harrison’s Tippecanoe expedition (November 1811) fanned the flames.

The *President–Little Belt* Affair (16 May 1811) symbolized the government’s path toward war. Believing himself to be threatened by a warship, Captain John Rodgers ordered his heavy frigate to pound a British sloop, a controversy that was never resolved but that earned Rodgers praise from the navy secretary.

When he sent his message to the first session of the twelfth U.S. Congress early in November 1811, Madison suggested that it was time to put the nation “into an armor and an attitude demanded by the crisis.” Congress spent the next six months trying to do this, but the bitter debates over ways and means produced a series of acts that hampered effective war preparations. Meanwhile, Madison and his cabinet hoped for a resolution of differences with Britain while actively promoting war. By June 1812, there seemed no alternative for Madison but to recommend war to Congress. After more rancorous debate, it passed by a total of 98 to 62 votes, and Madison signed it on 18 June.

In England, Lord Liverpool had just become the prime minister, and, under pressure from British merchants and in response to the fraudulent French St. Cloud Decree, Liverpool’s cabinet repealed the orders in council. Britain’s main concern continued to be the far-flung Napoleonic campaigns, so little effort was made to improve defenses in British North America against potential hostilities. Lieutenant General Sir George Prevost was the commander in chief at Quebec with about 4,400 officers and men in the maritime provinces, 4,400 in Lower Can-

ada (LC), and 1,200 in Upper Canada (UC), where Major General Isaac Brock commanded. The RN had fewer than 40 warships stationed at Halifax and Newfoundland, but they were widely deployed.

THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1812

To declare war was one thing, but to fight it was another, and the United States was poorly prepared for the challenge. Its army and navy had been maintained at minimal levels during the Jefferson and Madison administrations. Legislated increases in the U.S. Army and the creation of a cheaper volunteer corps could not be realized by enlistments, and the Department of War was incapable of supplying basic needs; even the blue dye for uniforms was in short supply. Madison, his cabinet, and their supporters had high expectations for the role that state militias would play, but militia laws limited their deployment. Without a core of well-trained young officers, Madison was required to give army leadership to such aging veterans of the American War of Independence as William Hull and Henry Dearborn.

The grand strategy for the war was the conquest of Canada, but the actual plan for doing this was developed slowly and incompletely. It was well understood by strategists on both sides of the war that a major campaign to isolate UC by cutting the St. Lawrence River supply line and then focusing on Montreal and Quebec was the best way to conquer Canada, but such was not the American plan. Dearborn was the chief architect, promoting an invasion of UC at the Detroit River, in part as a cover of the Northwest settlements, with a simultaneous invasion of LC near Montreal and diversionary activities on the Niagara River and the upper St. Lawrence River. Although it was discussed, no effort was made to develop a naval presence on the Great Lakes. A role for the U.S. Navy (USN) was slower in forming. It had only 14 serviceable warships, some of which wanted refitting, and several flotillas of gunboats. Only through the initiative of its highly competent senior officers did the navy put to sea and achieve unexpected success.

At Quebec, Prevost determined to hold the majority of his force in LC since he expected the main thrust there. At Brock's urgent plea, he sent some reinforcements to UC, where Brock wanted to use them in preemptive strikes against American border posts. Prevost was con-

vinced, however, that the unpopularity of the war in the United States retarded American efforts, and he did not want Brock to do anything that might provoke anti-British sentiments. Instead, Brock distributed his force at key points, supplemented by UC militia and wavering native support, and waited.

As a result, Fort Detroit was safe when Brigadier General William Hull arrived there on 5 July at the head of about 2,000 men, most of them enthusiastic Ohio Militia volunteers. He crossed into Canada on 12 July and might have captured the weakly defended Fort Amherstburg by storm but lacked the decisiveness to do it. His invasion stalled, and he ultimately retreated to Detroit in the second week of August for three reasons: native warriors, allied to the British, cut his supply lines to the south in two sharp skirmishes near the Detroit River; word arrived that the British had seized Fort Michilimackinac on 17 July and a strong force was said to be approaching from there; and another force under Brock was rumored to be coming from the Niagara Peninsula.

Contrary to Prevost's wishes, Brock had given tacit support to the commander at St. Joseph Island to take Michilimackinac, which was managed bloodlessly. This gave the British control of the upper lakes and influential fur-trade ties with the many aboriginal nations. It proved to be a distraction to American campaign goals for the rest of the war.

Brock arrived at Fort Amherstburg on 14 August and, with fewer than 1,500 regulars, militia, and warriors (under Tecumseh), crossed the Detroit the next day. After a light bombardment and a display of force, Hull surrendered, much to his army's disgust. The failure of the invasion was a crushing blow to the American strategy. The British now prepared to send an expedition to attack forts in Ohio and Indiana, but it was delayed by the Prevost–Dearborn Armistice.

When dispatches reached Quebec at the end of July regarding the repeal of the orders in council, Prevost sent the details to Dearborn and proposed an armistice so that Madison and his cabinet could reappraise the situation. The administration stayed the course since the British had not relented on impressment, but the suspension of hostilities until the second week of September proved detrimental to the early British success.

Tecumseh and his senior chiefs wanted to attack American holdings in the Old Northwest with British artillery and infantry support. Colonel Henry Procter at Fort Amherstburg, with Brock's approval, was

ready to do this, but the armistice prohibited such action. Independently, native forces besieged three forts without success, displaying how tenuous Tecumseh's control over his native allies was and provoking the Americans into action. Brigadier General William Harrison was soon in charge of a new army, forming up to secure the Old Northwest and recover what Hull had lost.

The armistice also allowed Dearborn to greatly reinforce the army on the Niagara Frontier. Originally intended only as a distraction and headed by Major General Stephen Van Rensselaer of the New York Militia, the army was ordered to invade the Niagara Peninsula. Van Rensselaer's army greatly outnumbered Brock's force, but whereas Brock was a career officer who knew how to deploy his assets effectively and keep them in the field, the American had no military experience, was poorly advised by his staff, and was virtually ignored by Brigadier General Alexander Smyth, U.S. Army, who reached Buffalo early in October but avoided a meeting with Van Rensselaer. On 13 October, a combined force of regulars and militia landed at Queenston, achieving success in the morning by killing Brock and occupying the high ground. But British army regulars, a party of Grand River Six Nations warriors, and local militia, all under Major General Roger Sheaffe, overwhelmed the Americans and captured more than 900 men at the end of the day. It was the first significant defense of Canadian soil, but the victory was tarnished by the loss of the highly respected Brock.

The two stunning defeats deflated the American campaign, and Dearborn, lethargic and deflecting any blame for the losses, managed only to march an army from Plattsburgh, New York, to the LC border in November, fight one small skirmish, and then return. The cap was put on the northern war when General Smyth, despite all his bombastic proclamations, was unable to cross the Niagara at the end of the month with the remains of Van Rensselaer's army.

All would have been lost for Madison's administration if not for the USN. The president ordered the creation of a naval force on the Great Lakes in August. Captain Isaac Chauncey was given the job, and by the end of October he had formed a squadron out of the only USN freshwater vessel, the brig *Oneida*, and some converted merchantmen at his base at Sackets Harbor on Lake Ontario and initiated the same effort on Lake Erie. During the second week of November, despite boisterous weather, Chauncey chased the Provincial Marine (PM) flagship into

Kingston and seized several commercial craft. The navigation season ended with Chauncey in control on Lake Ontario, the significance of which would reveal itself in the spring. Lieutenant Thomas Macdonough had taken command on Lake Champlain but made little headway by the end of the year.

Of much less strategic importance but more widely known and applauded were the singular victories of the USS *Constitution* over HMS *Guerrière* (19 August) and HMS *Java* (29 December) and the USS *United States* over HMS *Macedonian* (25 October); two other British ships were also taken. That British frigate captains would lose to the upstart Americans in single ship actions was unthinkable, so the successes prompted jubilation in the United States and dismay and denial in Canada and Britain. The capture of three smaller U.S. warships during this same period hardly compensated for the stunning American successes.

The other element of the war at sea that developed in 1812 was the activity of privateers and letters of marque. Such vessels were outfitted in the early summer for their potentially profitable but very risky business. The numerous American privateers kept the RN patrols much busier than any warships did, while the few vessels that sailed out of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick ports impacted sharply on American commerce.

The British government reacted to the American declaration of war in several ways. Admiral Sir John Warren was sent to take on an expanded command from headquarters at Halifax and Bermuda, with a few more warships and an order to blockade portions of the eastern seaboard. Reinforcements for the army were ordered to march from New Brunswick to Quebec during the winter, while others were transported from various places in the spring. After Prevost complained about the inadequacy of the PM to maintain control of the Great Lakes, more than 450 RN personnel under Commodore Sir James Yeo and a small detachment from Bermuda were sent to command the lakes. On 9 January 1813, the British formally proclaimed a state of war with the United States.

Sheaffe succeeded Brock in UC and struggled through the winter to keep his force fed and armed while he attempted to improve defenses. With Prevost's approval, he had a new ship laid down at Amherstburg on the Detroit River and two on Lake Ontario, and Prevost sent detachments to UC as conditions warranted. The British knew, however, that

the spring was likely to bring a stronger and more determined campaign from the Americans.

This is essentially what happened. Despite the setbacks of 1812, Madison won reelection and pushed on with the war. He replaced the ineffective Secretary of War William Eustis and Secretary of the Navy Paul Hamilton with John Armstrong and William Jones, respectively. Jones proved to be a competent administrator who set goals for the navy, while Armstrong was more likely to confuse his generals with his orders or make their tasks more difficult by meddling. The army was gradually being equipped, while the regiments were filled up and properly trained. New ships were soon under construction on the lakes where Master Commandant Oliver Perry had joined Chauncey's gradually expanding naval force. Several new keels were laid down in the eastern dockyards.

While preparing for war, the administration also sought peace. In September of 1812, Czar Alexander I of Russia offered to help the combatants resolve their differences, and, after some long-distance correspondence, two peace envoys, Albert Gallatin (the secretary of the treasury and, arguably, Madison's best cabinet official) and James Bayard, a Delaware Federalist, finally headed for St. Petersburg to meet John Quincy Adams and, it was hoped, commence negotiations with the British.

THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1813

The American strategy for 1813 looked very much like that of the previous year: conquer Canada. Regaining Detroit and invading UC at that point was still a priority. This would protect settlements in the Northwest and would be followed up with the recapture of Michilimackinac, which would break British influence on the natives and secure the lucrative fur-trade route. Less specifically defined was a campaign on the St. Lawrence River. As winter turned to spring, the point of attack varied, and Dearborn and Chauncey were allowed to make the final decision based on circumstances in the field, mixed with Armstrong's confusing directives. No firm plan was made in the Champlain valley except to improve Macdonough's squadron. Jones ordered his saltwater captains to make independent cruises as commerce raiders rather than operate in squadrons.

In the Northwest, William Harrison had intended to redeem Hull's loss by the end of 1812, but time was needed to subdue the rising native threat in the region. In addition, forming, supplying, and coordinating the wings of his army brought endless problems, so it was not until December that his advance under Brigadier General James Winchester was proceeding down the Maumee River in Ohio toward the western end of Lake Erie. Here, in January 1813, Harrison suffered a major setback when Winchester seized the British outpost at Frenchtown, Michigan, on 18 January only to be attacked and brutally defeated on 22 January by a force of about 400 regulars and militia and up to 800 native warriors under now-Brigadier General Henry Procter. Procter's casualty rate was high, but Winchester lost up to 400 men killed and 550 captured.

Harrison nearly pressed forward to overtake Procter's hurried withdrawal but chose instead to consolidate his position by building Fort Meigs 12 miles up the Maumee. It developed into a formidable establishment, and Procter realized that Harrison would launch his invasion from there. As a preemptive strike and, in part, because of the pressure that Tecumseh and the senior chiefs put on him to be aggressive, Procter undertook an expedition at the end of April to lay siege to the fort. He lacked suitable siege weapons, however, and could not breach the ramparts. A significant action took place on 5 May, when American reinforcements overran British batteries and were then badly mauled while an American sortie attacked another battery. The British rebuffed these attacks, but inclement weather and lack of supplies forced Procter to lift the siege.

He invested Fort Meigs late in July, at the urging of Tecumseh, but achieved little and suffered a sharp failure when he attacked Fort Stephenson on the Sandusky River on 2 August before heading home. Many of Procter's warrior allies left Fort Amherstburg after this, further weakening Procter's force.

By August, Harrison's army was ready to invade UC, but this depended on the USN. Perry had assembled and constructed a squadron at Erie, Pennsylvania, through the spring and summer and sailed early in August to take control of Lake Erie. This worsened Procter's position, as it cut off his supply route. The British PM squadron that had operated with impunity in 1812 was taken over by the RN in June 1813. Commander Robert Barclay had been sent there by Commodore Yeo

but had received little in the way of men or munitions. Even Barclay and Procter's individual pleas to Prevost went more or less unanswered. Forced to reopen the supply line, Barclay sailed with his six-vessel squadron (more than half the crews were infantry detached from Procter's regiments) and met Perry off Put-in-Bay on 10 September. The hard-fought battle lasted for three hours with Perry narrowly winning his "signal victory" and entering the realm of the great American heroes.

Procter again earned Tecumseh's disgust by ordering a retreat from Fort Amherstburg, but the expedition was badly organized, and the British had barely left when Perry's squadron ferried Harrison's army to land at nearby Amherstburg, UC; a large portion of the American force went overland to recover Detroit. Harrison was soon in pursuit of Procter's force and caught up with it at Moraviantown on the Thames River on 5 October. Here Harrison sent regiments of Kentucky militia and his own allied native warriors to route the hurriedly deployed British regulars and the natives under Tecumseh. The great chief was killed, and most of the regulars were captured; Procter and the survivors limped back to Burlington Heights at the western end of Lake Ontario. The Americans now occupied southwestern UC, but it was too late in the season to attempt a recapture of Michilimackinac.

On Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, things had not been so one-sided. After much debate, Dearborn and Chauncey opened their campaign with an attack on York on 27 April. Kingston was considered too well defended, while the two British ships rumored to be under construction at the capital of UC were tempting targets. The first-ever U.S. Army/U.S. Navy combined operation succeeded in capturing York but at the cost of hundreds of casualties and widespread sickness to the force. Sheaffe, who happened to be there, escaped toward Kingston with half his small corps after burning the one warship under construction. Prevost soon relieved the unpopular general of command.

Chauncey then landed Dearborn's army near Fort Niagara while he went to Sackets Harbor for more troops. Their next goal was Fort George, across the Niagara River from Fort Niagara, and this was managed in a well-orchestrated attack on 27 May. Once more, however, the British army, commanded by Brigadier General John Vincent, managed to escape and take up quarters at Burlington Heights. Dearborn and Chauncey were planning a pursuit of Vincent when news arrived that

the British had attacked Sackets Harbor; Chauncey hurriedly sailed for his base.

Commodore Yeo reached Kingston in mid-May in company with Prevost, and by the last week of the month the former PM squadron was ready for action. As a diversion in support of the expected attack on the Niagara Peninsula, Prevost proposed an attack on Chauncey's shipyard. The RN transported a force there on 28 May, and the attack was launched the next day. Here Brigadier General Jacob Brown of the New York Militia saw his first major action when his militia broke before the charging redcoats, but a small corps of regulars, USN personnel, U.S. Marines, and militia held off the British, inflicting heavy casualties and prompting Prevost to approve a withdrawal, to the displeasure of many officers, most notably Yeo. When Chauncey returned, however, and saw how he had nearly lost a new ship and all his resources, he stayed put and rarely ever left his base unless he could be sure of its defense.

On the Niagara Peninsula, the early American success had gone sour. The pursuit of Vincent's army ended in the night action at Stoney Creek on 6 June. Though it was an indecisive battle, the Americans hurried back to Fort George when Yeo's squadron arrived to support Vincent. The British slowly advanced under command of Major General Francis de Rottenburg, hemming the Americans in at Fort George. Their only major expedition from the fort ended in disaster at the battle of Beaver Dams on 24 June, when over 600 Americans were captured or killed in this unique victory achieved by British native allies.

De Rottenburg undertook a blockade of the Americans at Fort George resulting in a long, hot summer of constant skirmishing during which everyone watched Lake Ontario, expecting the issue to be decided by the commodores.

In July, both Chauncey and Yeo were instructed to seek a decisive action as a priority instead of only supporting the armies. The commodores craved such a fight, but the disparity between the strengths and weaknesses of the two squadrons forced each man into constantly maneuvering for a momentary advantage. Chauncey nearly caught Yeo in a lull off the Genesee River on 11 September, and on 28 September he managed to partially dismast Yeo's flagship. Supremacy on Lake Ontario and the armies' essential supply route hung in the balance for several minutes until Yeo's cohort, Commander William Mulcaster, steered his ship to intercept Chauncey, allowing his commodore to re-

cover and flee. In the end, the Americans were left fighting for their very survival against a tremendous storm, while Yeo managed to anchor in safety and make repairs.

Chauncey did succeed the next week in capturing a troop convoy en route for Kingston, sparking Prevost to criticize Yeo for not providing the necessary protection. Yeo was then instructed to support de Rottenburg's army, which was ending the blockade and pulling back to Burlington. Chauncey completed his essential assignment of covering the movement of a large army in small boats from Niagara to Sackets Harbor.

At the head of this army was Major General James Wilkinson, as notorious an officer as ever served in the U.S. Army. Secretary Armstrong had picked him to work under Dearborn and then to replace him when the older man fell ill in June. During the summer, the notion of attacking the St. Lawrence River region came under discussion again. Wilkinson ordered most of the army at Fort George to Sackets Harbor, where a second large force was gathering. Only late in October did he commit to a campaign down the St. Lawrence to Montreal rather than Kingston, which Chauncey had been led to believe would be the target. Armstrong had ordered Major General Wade Hampton to march his 4,000-man division from Plattsburgh toward LC in support of Wilkinson. This was a critical error, as the two generals despised one another and communicated only, and rarely at that, through Armstrong.

Hampton made a weak effort to probe the Richelieu River valley but turned back after a skirmish at Odelltown, LC, on 20 September to head for the Chateaugay River in New York. Without any clear instructions from Armstrong and no effort to coordinate his movements with Wilkinson's, Hampton slowly advanced up the Chateaugay until opposed by an advanced party of about 400 British regulars, militia, and natives at hurriedly made barricades about 25 miles from the river's mouth on the St. Lawrence. Led by Lieutenant Colonel Charles de Salaberry, this small force, backed by a larger reserve, fought Hampton to a standstill on 26 October. The general retreated to his previous camp and then gave up on the whole enterprise and returned to Plattsburgh.

Wilkinson's 7,300-man army began heading down the St. Lawrence late in October, fighting off an attack by four small RN warships at French Creek on 1–2 November and passing the British batteries at Prescott on 6 November. By this time, de Rottenburg had sent from

Kingston a “corps of observation” of infantry and the RN in gunboats down the river after Wilkinson. It picked up more regulars, some militia, and natives at Prescott, increasing its strength to about 1,200. Commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Morrison, this corps soon began to harass Wilkinson’s rear guard, retarding his progress and eventually forcing the battle of Crysler’s Farm (11 November 1813). Since Wilkinson had been laid low by illness (and had never shown much talent for organization), command during the battle devolved on Brigadier General John Boyd. It was fought under classic open-field conditions, ending with a victory for Morrison; casualties ran high on both sides. The Americans withdrew and fled down the river to Cornwall, where Wilkinson decided the expedition was at an end and ordered his army to go into winter camp at French Mills, New York.

Through the summer and fall, military and naval reinforcements had reached Quebec, and among these was Lieutenant General Gordon Drummond, sent from England to replace de Rottenburg in command of the government and forces in UC. He reached Kingston in the first week of December and was at St. Davids on the Niagara Peninsula on 16 December to see firsthand the evidence of a recent American outrage.

Following Wilkinson’s departure early in October, the American strength at Fort George had gradually diminished until it was held by mainly New York Militia under Brigadier General George McClure. Prior to his pullout, on 10 December he ordered the burning of the town of Niagara, which was completely destroyed, and the inhabitants were turned out into a snowstorm.

Drummond moved quickly to seek retribution. The British captured Fort Niagara in a bloody fight at the bayonet’s point on 18–19 December and then raided and burned the villages of Lewiston (19 December), Manchester (21 December), Black Rock and Buffalo (30 December), and all points in between. As the old year ended, the British had regained Fort George and the Niagara Peninsula and occupied Fort Niagara. Drummond and Yeo concocted a plan to recapture Barclay’s warships moored at Put-in-Bay, but a moderate winter kept the ice too thin for their proposed expedition.

On Lake Champlain, little had occurred during the year. Commander Daniel Pring, RN, had charge of the new dockyard at Isle-aux-Noix on the Richelieu River and held the advantage for the summer after captur-

ing two of Macdonough's converted merchantmen on 3 June. At the end of July, a combined naval and military expedition raided communities on the Vermont and New York shores, but after Macdonough sailed with a slightly stronger force in September, the British remained at their base to build a proper brig of war.

While half their goals for 1813 had been achieved in the north, the Americans found themselves vulnerable to attack in the Chesapeake Bay region. The British government sent more warships, two battalions of Royal Marines, a regiment of infantry, artillery, rocketeers, and two companies of ill-disciplined expatriate French soldiers to Admiral Warren with orders to extend the blockade and bring the war to the thriving tidal ports. Most important, Rear Admiral George Cockburn joined Warren at Bermuda during January and began a reconnaissance of the bay in March before most of the reinforcements arrived.

Under Warren's direction, Cockburn roamed the shores of the Chesapeake through April and early May with a small squadron of vessels. This force, usually with Cockburn leading from the front, captured many vessels and raided numerous communities. Cockburn tolerated no resistance from the locals and his destruction by fire of Havre de Grace, Maryland (3 May 1813), earned him the reputation in the United States as a barbarous scoundrel. The local militias seldom resisted the British raids, and the U.S. Army and U.S. Navy lacked the strength locally to oppose the incursions.

The larger military force arrived in June, and Warren centered his activities in the southern part of the bay. An attack on Craney Island, which was to have led to the capture of Norfolk and the USS *Constellation* blockaded there, failed miserably on 22 June. Hampton, Virginia, fell easily on 25 June and was briefly occupied.

Cockburn sailed with part of the force to make a raid at the Ocracoke Inlet off North Carolina's coast in July and then returned to meet Warren in the Chesapeake, where more raids were conducted in August. In September, a small blockading squadron was left at the mouth of the bay, while Cockburn went to Bermuda for a refit of his warships and Warren headed for Halifax.

The British blockade, which was increased to cover most of the American coast in November 1813, managed to prevent USN warships and merchantmen from sailing, but some did escape, with the privateers leading the pack and striking at British shipping. Unable to maintain

a perfect blockade (impossible under the best conditions) and fight an ambitious inshore campaign at the same time, Warren had only moderate success in each. The Admiralty was dissatisfied with his efforts and chose Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane to replace him.

The war at sea between opposing warships ended with the RN earning four victories to the USN's three. The most significant of these was the capture of the USS *Chesapeake* by HMS *Shannon* off Boston on 1 June; following this incident, Secretary Jones forbade his captains to seek battle in such a manner as Captain James Lawrence of the *Chesapeake* had. As per another of Jones's orders, the few American warships that managed to evade the British blockade made relatively successful cruises as commerce raiders and were the object of RN patrols. The USS *Essex* under Captain David Porter spent the year in the Pacific Ocean, seizing British whalers with impunity and making a long stay in the Marquesas Islands.

The unpopularity of the war, evident in some quarters since its beginning, became more obvious during 1813. The UC Militia, who had shown some zeal on the Niagara Peninsula in 1812, failed to perform at York in April and after the fall of Fort George offered up their parole to the conquering Americans in large numbers. A radical element in the province's legislature had caused Brock concern before the war, and some of these individuals formed a corps of turncoats who fought for the Americans, calling themselves the Canadian Volunteers. Rather than go this far, other locals began to maraud through the western counties, especially after Harrison's victory at Moraviantown. Martial law was considered several times as a means of forcing farmers to sell their produce to the government. Such evidence of dissension caused much concern for Prevost and his commanders in the upper province.

Similar, though not quite as extreme, examples existed in the United States. New England merchants obtained licenses from British authorities at Halifax to ship goods to the forces in the Peninsular War. In Vermont and northern New York, farmers sent wagonloads of goods and herds of cattle into LC to feed Prevost's troops. Everywhere, militia failed to turn out when ordered, and newspapers criticized the government's ineptitude. Even DeWitt Clinton, a leading Republican, considered forming a Peace Party, merging Federalists and disenchanted Republicans to oust Madison in 1812. When this idea failed, Clinton's

antiwar efforts nearly made the failed general Stephen Van Rensselaer the governor of New York in 1813.

THE CAMPAIGNS OF 1814 AND 1815

The new year of 1814 dawned with a fresh possibility for an end to the war. After refusing to allow Russia to mediate matters, the British offered to begin direct negotiations late in 1813, and in January, Madison nominated Henry Clay and Jonathan Russell to form a five-man commission with Adams, Bayard, and Gallatin at Gothenburg, Sweden; they arrived there in April.

Little action was taken in Washington during the winter to plan new campaigns. Recruitment continued in new and old regiments, and there were some changes made in their organization. Armstrong ordered Wilkinson to break up his camp at French Mills, sending part of it to Sackets Harbor under now-Major General Jacob Brown of the U.S. Army and the rest to Plattsburgh. From there, Wilkinson made a halfhearted attempt to invade LC in March, but this came to grief in a battle at Lacolle, LC, on 30 March. By that time, Armstrong had already recalled the erratic general to face an inquiry into his St. Lawrence River campaign; Major General George Izard was given command of the Right Division of the northern army at Plattsburgh, while Brown commanded the Left Division. Secretary Jones gave Chauncey permission to construct four new ships at Sackets Harbor and allowed Macdonough to build a warship and gunboats at Vergennes, Vermont. Jones also divided Chauncey's command by putting Captain Arthur Sinclair in charge of Perry's former squadron at Erie.

The British were building two frigates and a 100-gun ship at Kingston and debating plans for regaining control of the upper lakes. Drummond and Yeo proposed an ambitious attack on Sackets, but Prevost vetoed this, making it known that he was expecting an armistice to be called shortly.

Nothing of the kind was to happen because, on 6 April, Napoleon abdicated his authority, bringing an end (temporarily) to the great European struggle. The British government now resolved to send some of its best regiments and officers to America to settle the matter with force; these numbers were added to reinforcements already on their way,

eventually raising British military strength to nearly 50,000 on all fronts.

Meanwhile, Drummond and Yeo modified their plans and launched, on 5–6 May, an amphibious attack on Oswego, Chauncey's key transshipment point for heavy materiel sent from New York City. At the cost of heavy casualties, the assault netted some guns, ammunition, rigging, and stores, and Yeo followed it up by blockading the Lake Ontario shore between Oswego and Sackets. Chauncey's building had started late and an early thaw left his supply trains bogged down in mud across New York, so the assault and blockade worsened his dilemma. However, on 30 May, a small number of naval, military, and native personnel guarding a supply convoy of bateaux headed from Oswego lured nearly 200 seamen and marines from Yeo's squadron into an ambush, and captured or killed them all. Yeo soon lifted his blockade and returned to Kingston with his larger ships after deploying four of his small vessels to supply Drummond's army on the Niagara Peninsula.

The Americans had started a campaign on the peninsula almost by accident. Madison's cabinet did not set its campaign goals until the first week of June, and by that time Armstrong had sent Brown conflicting orders until the general ended up at Buffalo preparing for an invasion of UC. This scheme was pared down when the cabinet committed Sinclair's squadron and a military contingent for an expedition on the upper lakes instead of to support Brown. "To give immediate occupation to your troops," Armstrong suggested to Brown, instead, why not capture Fort Erie?

Brown's army, numbering about 5,000 men in the early phase, captured Fort Erie on 3 July and then beat the British army under Major General Phineas Riall at Chippawa on 5 July; Brigadier General Winfield Scott's brigade played a key role in this unprecedented American victory. Brown then advanced to the vicinity of Fort George, where, he had been led to believe, Chauncey would arrive with siege weapons and support. Chauncey's squadron did not sail until late in the month, and Brown ended up withdrawing to Chippawa and then engaging Drummond in the bloody battle of Lundy's Lane on 25 July.

The Americans withdrew to Fort Erie, which they enlarged and improved, and Drummond soon followed to lay a siege. This period saw the most intense fighting of the war on the Niagara Peninsula with the failed assault on the fort on 15 August followed by weeks of skirmish-

ing and sniping and culminating in the face-to-face combat in a rain-storm during Brown's sortie on 17 September. Drummond was lifting his siege at this point and fell back to Chippawa, where Izard soon arrived, having been sent with his division from Plattsburgh by Armstrong. Apart from a skirmish at Cook's Mills, Izard accomplished no more than Brown could, and when he retreated to Buffalo after blowing up Fort Erie on 5 November, the last shots had been fired in anger on the shores of the Niagara.

Had Madison's cabinet kept its first intentions, Sinclair would have transported Brown's army to the Grand River, where the army would have gone overland to attack the British at Burlington Heights. But Michilimackinac continued to distract Madison and his advisers even though their victory at Moraviantown had broken the back of Tecumseh's native resistance so that only a few of the "Western Indians" remained with the British, while many of their people had gone home and would sign a treaty with Harrison in July.

Probably more interested in securing the fur trade than native alliances, the administration sent Sinclair with 750 regulars and militia volunteers to recapture the fur fort and destroy an RN dockyard rumored to be under development in Georgian Bay. After numerous delays, the force entered Lake Huron on 14 July, burned the abandoned British posts at St. Joseph Island and at St. Mary, destroyed one merchantman and captured another, and arrived off Michilimackinac on 26 July. The attack was made on 4 August and ended in failure. Sinclair sent some of his vessels back to Lake Erie with casualties and proceeded into Georgian Bay, but there was no dockyard to be found. He had to content himself with destroying another merchantman before heading for home, after leaving two schooners to intercept the British supply route to Michilimackinac. Soon after his return to Erie, Sinclair was dismayed to hear that a small band of RN seamen, infantry, natives, and traders had captured both his schooners, giving the British a stronger upper hand on Lake Huron and beyond.

While Sinclair pursued his mission, the American army on the Detroit River made no effort to establish an American presence throughout southwestern UC other than deploying several raiding parties into the Thames River valley. These resulted in minor actions with British militia and regulars, such as the skirmish at McCrea's Farm (15 December 1813) and the violent clash at the Longwoods (4 March 1814). Briga-

dier General Duncan McArthur began a raid near the end of October with 1,000 men in support of Brown's army on the Niagara Peninsula, but he got no further than the rain-swollen Grand River, burned some barns and homes, and routed the local militia at Malcolm's Mills (6 November 1814) before returning to Detroit. The British did not try to reclaim this territory, choosing instead to patrol the area and keep a reserve at Burlington.

For the first time since the Fort Dearborn massacre in August 1812, action occurred west of the lakes. At St. Louis, Governor William Clark of Missouri Territory (Meriwether Lewis's partner in exploration) feared a British invasion down the Mississippi from their fur-trade post at Prairie du Chien in modern-day Wisconsin. In a preemptive strike, Clark captured the village on 2 June 1814 with a company each of militia and regulars. He left a detachment behind to build Fort Shelby and returned to St. Louis. News of the occupation reached Lieutenant Colonel Robert McDouall at Michilimackinac, and he quickly sent a force of regulars, fur traders, and natives to retake the place, which they accomplished after a brief siege (17–20 July). The next day, a relief force from St. Louis was attacked by Fox, Kickapoo, and Sac warriors at the Rock Island rapids 100 miles south of Prairie du Chien. This prompted Clark to send a second relief force, but it came to grief at the same place on 5 September. The village and the renamed Fort McKay remained in British hands.

The eastern flank of the northern border saw its major action in 1814. Having launched and fitted out his new warship by early May, Commander Pring attempted to interrupt Macdonough's shipbuilding at Vergennes, Vermont, but was repelled in the skirmish at Otter Creek (14 May). The Americans sailed two weeks later with a stronger squadron, forcing Pring to withdraw to Isle-aux-Noix. There was skirmishing along the border through the spring and summer, but General Izard did not use his division to invade Canada. Instead, Armstrong sent him in August to join Brown, leaving Brigadier General Alexander Macomb in charge of about 3,500 regulars (many of whom were ill) at Plattsburgh.

The regiments from Europe began arriving at Quebec early in the summer, and with them came orders for Prevost to make an incursion into the United States in coordination with other operations in Maine and Chesapeake Bay. To this end, he formed an 8,100-man army in three infantry brigades, plus dragoons, artillery, and natives. Prevost's

intention was to capture Plattsburgh and, perhaps, advance farther south, but his scheme rested on the RN squadron at Isle-aux-Noix defeating Macdonough. This was impractical since the vessels were not fitted out fully, especially the newly launched frigate *Confiance*, and were manned mainly with soldiers. Prevost arrived at Plattsburgh on 6 September and impatiently called for the navy to join him. Under Captain George Downie, the squadron sailed before it was properly prepared and suffered an ignominious defeat at Macdonough's hands on 11 September. Prevost had just started his land attack (later than planned) when he heard of Downie's defeat and promptly called off the attack. The next day, the army returned to LC, where Prevost was roundly criticized and eventually summoned home to face charges brought against him by Commodore Yeo, who claimed he had goaded Downie into action. The American victory was complete, and Macdonough and Macomb became heroes.

Nearly 300 miles due east, the British had enjoyed much greater success after a nearly bloodless campaign to occupy the easternmost portion of Maine. Because the boundary between the territory and Canada had long been disputed, the British government ordered Lieutenant General Sir John Sherbrooke to seize the territory from the Penobscot River to New Brunswick as part of its escalation of the war. With one regiment and several warships, the British captured Eastport, Maine, on 11 July without a fight. In September, Sherbrooke was at the head of four regiments in a large squadron that captured Castine on the Penobscot River on 1 September and took Hampden and Bangor two days later. Very little fighting occurred, and because of some judicious administration, the subsequent occupation of the area (which lasted until April 1815) was conducted in an amicable way. Although swords rattled in Boston and plans were discussed in Washington, no effort was made to regain the captured territory.

The administration was too busy anyway with more immediate problems at Washington. The plans discussed by Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane and the British government before he left England were wide ranging, and he had latitude to choose specific campaign goals. After taking command of the North America Station at Bermuda in April 1814, Cochrane assessed the situation and decided to center on the Chesapeake Bay region first. To that end, he sent Rear Admiral

Cockburn to establish a base at Tangier Island and begin raids while he waited for regiments to arrive from Europe.

Cockburn resumed his aggressive activities, which included stopping the advance of a gunboat flotilla under Captain Joshua Barney, USN, and trapping it in the Patuxent River. When Cochrane finally arrived in August with Major General Robert Ross and an army of 4,500, Cockburn recommended an expedition up the Patuxent toward Washington. This led to the British victory at Bladensburg (24 August) and the brief occupation and burning of Washington over the next day. As a diversion, Captain James Gordon sailed a squadron up the Potomac River to Alexandria, which surrendered without a fight. Despite the effort of naval heroes John Rodgers, David Porter, and Oliver Perry to stop Gordon with fireships and shore batteries, he soon rejoined Cochrane's fleet.

These events humiliated the administration and threw it into chaos. Armstrong was forced to resign, and James Monroe took his place as secretary of war. After hesitating, Cochrane decided to attack Baltimore, but Major General Samuel Smith of the Maryland Militia commanded there and had greatly improved its defenses. Cochrane landed Ross early on 12 September to attack the city's flank, but the general was killed by a sniper a few hours later. Smith's advance force broke at the battle of North Point that afternoon, but the extent of the fortifications and the determined resistance maintained during the bombardment of the harbor and Fort McHenry on 13–14 September convinced Cochrane to withdraw. The successful defense of Baltimore nearly made up for the destruction of Washington.

Cochrane left a small force to blockade and raid the Chesapeake and turned his attention toward the Gulf coast. In the spring, he had sent naval and Royal Marine officers to form an alliance with the Creek nation in preparation for an attack on New Orleans. The events of the Creek War (1813–1814) and the competence of Brigadier General Andrew Jackson depleted the strength of the Creek "Red Sticks," and by September they could offer the British little assistance. Not fully aware of this situation, Cochrane proceeded with a plan that dedicated an army of 10,000 to the campaign.

Cochrane reached the staging point at Jamaica in November and hurried on to the British base in western Florida, where he learned that the Americans controlled Mobile, blocking the overland route to New

Orleans. As a result, he and Major General John Keane decided to approach the city by water from the east, resulting in a slow and fatiguing transfer of men from ships to shore. After a small USN flotilla made a brave but unsuccessful stand at the battle of Lake Borgne (14 December), the British pushed on and gained their beachhead at the Villeré plantation below New Orleans on 23 December.

Jackson had effectively coordinated the defense of New Orleans and ordered an attack on the British the night they arrived. He failed to push them off but set the pattern for what was to come. Even when Major General Sir Edward Packenham arrived with most of the rest of the army, he was not able to penetrate Jackson's defenses, as he learned in actions on 28 December and 1 January 1815. His grand assault on 8 January quickly turned into the sharpest British defeat of the war, with nearly 2,000 men killed, wounded, and captured. Packenham and his second in command died of their wounds, and his successor, Major General John Lambert, and Cochrane decided to pull out. Jackson held his lines firm, expecting another attack. His brilliant generalship made him the foremost hero of the age.

Lambert and Cochrane landed their troops on Dauphine Island off Mobile to recuperate and then captured nearby Fort Bowyer on 12 February. They might have been contemplating another attempt on New Orleans, but the matter was soon nullified when news of peace arrived.

Cochrane had sent Cockburn to Cumberland Island on the border of Georgia and Florida to begin a campaign that would potentially unite with his own, but this did not get under way until January 1815, and it accomplished little until halted in February.

Cochrane had extended the blockade to the entire American coast, though the deployment of much of his force for the various campaigns limited the blockade's overall success. Still, merchants in both nations complained loudly about lost capital (especially at the hands of privateers) and gradually pushed their governments toward peace.

On the oceans, the opposing navies fought to a near draw in 1814 and the last ship-to-ship actions in 1815, with six victories for the RN and seven for the USN. The British ended the cruise of the *Essex* at Valparaiso, Chile, on 28 March 1814 and captured the USS *President* off New York on 15 January 1815. The smaller American cruisers, however, continued to show their advantages over RN sloops sent to catch

them, and the USS *Constitution* capped its fighting record with the capture of two warships off Madeira on 20 February.

After innumerable delays, peace negotiations had finally started on 8 August 1814 at Ghent in Dutch Flanders. They dragged on for four months as the opposing commissions presented proposals and counter-proposals on wide-ranging topics. News of the burning of Washington set the American cause back, but reports of the successful defense of Baltimore and Prevost's failure at Plattsburgh gave them an advantage. The British representatives had to refer every item to officials in London, while the American delegates argued among themselves. In the end, the British government decided to get out of the war, fearing that the uneasy peace in Europe following Napoleon's abdication was about to collapse. On 24 December, the delegates signed the Treaty of Ghent, which essentially ordered a return to a status quo *ante bellum*.

OUTCOMES OF THE WAR

Commissions arising from the articles of the Treaty of Ghent led eventually to a confirmation of the boundary between the United States and British North America. Another equally important set of negotiations led in 1817 to the Rush-Bagot Agreement, which limited naval armament on the Great Lakes.

Although the British delegates at Ghent had sought to create a buffer state for aboriginal nations around the lakes, this notion was lost, and the native cause was virtually ignored. Many of the nations in the Northwest signed treaties with the United States in the summer of 1815, but the die was cast, and their homelands would soon be overrun as the United States spread westward.

The war had been a proving ground for the development of several innovative armament systems. In 1814, the British made wide use of Congreve rockets on the battlefield and during amphibious operations, launching the startling weapons from rocket boats and one of the first rocket ships. Throughout the war, however, their spherical case shot, unrecognizable at first to the Americans, was a much more practical and successful menace. Sneak-attack weapons, such as torpedoes, submarines and explosion vessels, based in part on the ideas of Robert Fulton,

took some tentative but inconsequential steps forward in their evolution. And the revolutionary repeating firearms of Joseph Chambers were apparently mounted in the USN squadron on Lake Ontario but were never called on to clear a British quarterdeck with their devastating blaze of fire.

A pointless debate still wages as to which nation won the war. Neither side lost any land. Both sides lost men, money, and resources. The U.S. Army made a great leap in its development when such young officers as Brown, Scott, and Izard rose to prominence and steered the development of the army through the first half of the 19th century. The diminutive USN created a tradition for superior service founded on the accomplishments of Decatur, Perry, and Macdonough. While numerous veterans ran for state and federal office, three of them became U.S. presidents and one a vice president.

The idea is still put forth that the War of 1812 was a second war of independence, a notion arising from rhetoric during the conflict. Taking on a world power and *not* losing to it certainly bolstered American pride, but some sharp divisions along regional lines clearly revealed a fault line along which the nation would split some decades down the road.

In some ways, the war was the beginning of the end for British North America. As the decades passed, the British army and RN gradually pulled out of Canada, while the government reduced its fiscal ties. The British provided the first impetus to dig the much-needed canals, but soon it was Canadian initiative and ingenuity that was improving the provinces' transportation networks and building a distinct society in its wildernesses.

The war did a lot to create a Canadian identity, more so in UC than in the other provinces. The radical element in the province remained, and the easy flow of commerce to the United States continued, but the war weakened the ties between former American-born settlers and produced a rising sense of loyalty to the Crown. This notion was promoted by the young veterans who rose to prominence in business and government. The war was spoken of with pride, and more than a few legendary tales arose out of it and planted themselves in the popular literature; even chronically self-effacing Canadians could have heroes (and heroines) who were larger than life.

In the shadow of the other great wars of the age and those that occurred later in the century, the War of 1812 seems like little more than a sideshow at first glance. It was no sideshow for the people involved, of course, nor will it be for anyone who takes the time to examine its many complexities.

The Dictionary

– A –

ABATIS. This was an obstruction to an attacking force and consisted of either sharpened stakes sticking out of the ground side by side or smaller stakes fastened to fence-like supports arranged in a long line or, when in front of a **fortification** hurriedly constructed in the field, a tangle of brush and waste wood.

ABENAKI. The Abenaki nation lived in and around Saint Francis (Odanak), **LC**, on the St.-François River, which empties into the **St. Lawrence River** about 50 miles downstream from **Montreal**. They had ranged as far south as **Massachusetts** and north into central **LC** and had held land around **Missisquoi Bay**. During the war, they sent warriors to fight for the British, and they were present at **Chateau-guay** (26 October 1813).

ADAMS (1799) (U.S. Navy). Rebuilt in 1812, the *Adams* was **blockaded** at the naval yard at **Washington** by the British until January 1814, when it made a short voyage and was burned at **Hampden, Maine**, to prevent its capture on 3 September 1814 during the **British Maine campaign**.

Type: 28-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1799, **New York City**. Actual armament: (1812) 26 18-pounder **long guns**, one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 113' between perpendiculars, × 34' × 10' 9" draft of vessel, 530 tons. Crew: 220.

ADAMS (1801) (U.S. Army). The **brig**, operated by the **U.S. Army**, was captured at **Detroit** by the British in August 1812 and renamed

the *Detroit*. It was destroyed during the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** at **Fort Erie** (9 October 1812).

Type: 6-gun brig. Launch: 1801, near Detroit. Actual armament: (1812) six 6-pdr lg. Dimensions: 125 tons. Crew: 30.

ADAMS, JOHN QUINCY (1767–1848). American peace commissioner. The son of John Adams, the second U.S. president, John Quincy was well educated and prepared for a life of public service. He began a law practice in 1790 but was sent by President George Washington on his first overseas diplomatic assignment in 1794. Although he was a **Federalist**, Adams sided with President **Thomas Jefferson** on several issues, and President **James Madison** sent him to be the ambassador to Russia in 1809. There, in September 1812, he received an offer from Czar Alexander I to mediate a peace between Britain and the **United States**. This failed, but Adams joined **James Bayard**, **Henry Clay**, **Albert Gallatin**, and **Jonathan Russell** in the commission that negotiated the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Because of his strictly conservative nature, Adams clashed with his fellow commissioners, especially Clay, and although he was the nominal leader of the group, it was Gallatin who was able to mediate among his colleagues and who emerged as the more effective leader and negotiator, winning Adams's respect at the same time. Following the war, Adams continued his public career, serving as the sixth U.S. president (1825–1829) and, after a brief retirement, as a congressman until his death.

ADAMS, WILLIAM (1772–1851). British peace commissioner. Adams was born into a family of some means that gave him an excellent education and prepared him for a career in law. His expertise in international and maritime law led him to be appointed to several important government commissions, which in turn caused him to be placed with **Lord Gambier** and **Henry Goulburn** on the commission charged with negotiating peace with the **United States** at **Ghent**. Although they put much effort into the task, Adams and the others had to refer every element of negotiations to Prime Minister **Lord Liverpool**, his cabinet, and advisers in London. After numerous meetings and long delays, they succeeded in developing the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Adams continued with simi-

lar government assignments until 1825, when his health broke down and he retired to a less stressful life.

ADDINGTON COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Lennox and Addington County was located just west of Kingston and was part of the Midland District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its one infantry **regiment** in 1812, as was a **troop** of **dragoons**, but they do not appear to have seen any active service.

ADJUTANT GENERAL. This was an administrative assistant to a commanding military officer in charge of every sort of record keeping, orders distribution, post inspections, and so on.

ADMIRAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

ADMIRALTY. The Admiralty Board administered the Royal Navy. Situated at Whitehall, a block of buildings in London, the board consisted of six or seven lords, some of whom were RN officers. The head of the board was the First Lord of the Admiralty, who was a member of the British Cabinet and brought the government's policies and directives to the board. During the War of 1812, this was **Lord Melville**, a politician; at other times, the First Lord was a senior admiral. He worked in conjunction with Secretary of State for War and the Colonies **Lord Bathurst** and officials of the **British army** at the **Horse Guards** to coordinate naval and army activities.

The Admiralty made promotions and appointments and gave orders to all its **fleets**, **ships**, stations, and men. It also oversaw the activities of the Navy Board (which handled technical and financial matters) and four other subsidiary boards dealing with the **Royal Marines**, transport, victuals, and the sick and hurt and **prisoners of war**. Like the British army, it worked in conjunction with the Ordnance Board, a separate department of the government, which supplied guns, ammunition, and other stores to the navy and the army. In 1812, the Admiralty had nearly 550 warships in **commission** and was funded to have 145,000 seamen and **marines**, although the actual number of men serving was probably somewhat less than that.

ÆTNA (RN). The **Admiralty** ordered this bomb vessel, and others like it, to serve under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** on the

North America Station in 1814. It was active during **Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September). It was sold in 1816.

Type: bomb vessel. Launch: ?, purchased as the **merchantman Success** in 1803. Standard armament: one 13-inch **mortar**, one 10-inch mortar, eight 24-pdr **carronades**. Dimensions: 102' gun deck length × 29' 2½" × 12" 6" depth in hold, 368 tons. Crew: 67.

AIDE-DE-CAMP. This appointment went to a **commissioned** officer who acted as an assistant to a senior officer.

AKWESASNE. Also known as St. Regis, this native reserve was located on the **St. Lawrence River** southwest of **Montreal** at Lake St. Francis and straddled the international border. Its occupants, part of the **Seven Nations** and mainly of Iroquois descent, had divided loyalties. After the skirmish in the fall of 1812, the British held Akwesasne for the rest of the war, though the separate British and American Parties on the reserve sent warriors to fight for their respective sides.

AKWESASNE AND FRENCH MILLS, SKIRMISHES AT (23 October, 23 November 1812). In October 1812, a small company from the **Corps of Canadian Voyageurs** under Captain John Macdonell guarded Akwesasne. On 23 October, 200 **New York State Militia** under Major Guilford Dudley Young attacked and captured the post, killing eight of the British and capturing about 40. Some of the Americans remained to occupy it.

Captain **Andrew Gray** was proceeding up the **St. Lawrence River** in a convoy of **bateaux** with supplies during the third week of November when he was ordered to recapture the Akwesasne post and then attack the American post at **French Mills, New York**, on the **Salmon River** about nine miles east of Akwesasne. Gray gathered a detachment of troops under Major Alexander Clerk, **49th Foot**, which included men from the **Glengarry Light Infantry** (under Major **George Macdonell**), the 1/49th Foot and the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and 250 of the **Glengarry** and **Stormont Militias**. Gray, though junior in rank, appears to have held command. The British crossed to the Salmon River in the predawn hours of 23 November. The Stormont Militia reoccupied Akwesasne without any

apparent opposition, while the rest, joined by 30 native warriors, proceeded across county to attack French Mills. Here, they surprised and overwhelmed the NY Militia **garrison**, which had three men killed and 42 captured. The British withdrew after destroying arms, ammunition, and bateaux.

ALABAMA. The Territory of Alabama was created in 1817 from part of **Mississippi Territory** when it entered statehood. During the war, **Mobile** and the area around it was therefore part of Mississippi.

ALBION (RN). This **ship of the line** was the flagship of Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** from January 1814. Placed on harbor service following the war, it was broken up in 1836.

Type: 74-gun **third rate**. Launch: 1802, Blackwall, United Kingdom. Standard armament: 28 32-pdr lg, 32 18-pdr lg, 18 9-pdr lg. Dimensions: 175' gd × 47' 8" × 20' 6" dh, 1,743 tons. Crew: 640.

ALERT (RN). The USS *Essex*, Captain **David Porter**, captured the *Alert*, Commander **Thomas Laugharne**, on 13 August 1812 west of the Azores. The **USN** converted it into a store **ship**. It was broken up at **Norfolk** in 1829.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1803, UK; purchased by **RN** in 1804. Standard armament: (1812) two 9-pdr lg, 16 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 105' bp × 29' × 11' dr, 393 tons. Crew: 80.

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA. This town was first laid out in 1749. Located about seven miles down the **Potomac River** from **Washington**, Alexandria was a bustling port, although navigation of the nearly 100 miles down to **Chesapeake Bay** was difficult. During Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac** (17 August–6 September 1814), the British occupied the town between 27 and 31 August. The townspeople agreed not to interfere with their seizure of **merchantmen** and goods and thereby prevented their town's destruction.

ALGONQUIN. Appearing in period documents and narratives of the war, this term referred to a language group as opposed to an individual aboriginal nation. Among the people whose languages were Al-

gonquin based were the **Abenaki**, **Fox**, **Kickapoo**, **Menominee**, **Ojibwa**, **Potawatomi**, and **Sauk**.

ALLEGANY. This aboriginal group was part of the **Seneca** nation of the **New York Six Nations**.

ALLEN, WILLIAM HENRY (1784–1813). Allen was born in Providence, **Rhode Island**, and entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800. He saw nearly continuous service in the Mediterranean Sea during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1804. He was serving in the USS *Chesapeake* when the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* occurred (22 June 1807). Allen moved into the USS *United States*, Captain **Stephen Decatur**, as first lieutenant in 1809 and played a key role when Decatur captured HMS *Macedonian*, Captain **John Carden**, 500 miles south of the Azores on 25 October 1812. For his part in the victory, Allen was given command of the U.S. Brig *Argus*, in which he conducted a successful cruise off the west coast of England before being captured by His Majesty's Sloop *Pelican*, Commander **John Maples**, on 14 August 1813 in the St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales. Early in the action, Allen suffered a critical leg wound when he was struck by a 32-pdr round shot. His leg was amputated, but the wound led to his death on 18 August. He was buried with full honors at St. Andrew's Church in Plymouth, England.

AMELIA (USN). This vessel was briefly part of the **USN squadron** on **Lake Erie** from late 1812 but was deemed defective and was left at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, the following summer.

Type: **schooner**. Launch: 1801, **Detroit, Michigan**, as **merchantman** *General Wilkinson*.

AMERICAN DECLARATION OF WAR. See **DECLARATION OF WAR, AMERICAN**.

AMERICAN FUR COMPANY. John Jacob Astor formed this company in 1808 to get involved in the lucrative fur trade with aboriginal nations west and south of the American post on **Michilimackinac Island**. This placed him in competition with the British **Michili-**

mackinac and **North West Companies**. In 1811, he and his rivals formed the **South West Fur Company** to pursue business in the region. The War of 1812 interrupted its operations, and after the war Astor bought out his partners, and the American Fur Company established its base at Michilimackinac.

AMERICAN WAR OF INDEPENDENCE (1775–1783). Although the famous battle of Bunker Hill was fought at Boston in 1775, it was on 4 July 1776 that the 13 colonies declared their independence from Britain and the colonial insurgents, the patriots, formed themselves into an army under George Washington. Warfare continued until the British surrender at Yorktown, **Virginia**, in October 1781; the Treaty of Paris was formally signed two years later. Some of the prominent American commanders in 1812, such as **John Armstrong**, **Henry Dearborn**, and **William Hull**, gained their first experience in war during this conflict and earned reputations for valour and proficiency.

AMHERSTBURG, FORT. The British began constructing this **fortification**, adjacent to **Amherstburg, UC**, and five miles from the mouth of the **Detroit River** in 1796. In 1812, it consisted of four **bastions** connected by earthen **curtains** and **palisades** and mounting 20 pieces of **ordnance**. Most Americans and a few Canadians and British referred to it as Fort Malden after the local township.

AMHERSTBURG, UC. This village, commonly referred to by Americans of the period as Malden because of the local township, was located about five miles from the mouth of the **Detroit River** and adjacent to **Fort Amherstburg**.

AMHERSTVIEW, UC. This small British village was on the north channel of the **Bay of Quinte** about six miles west of **Kingston** and opposite the eastern end of Amherst Island.

AMIENS, TREATY OF (October 1801–May 1803). Signed in preliminary form on 1 October 1801, this treaty provided an end to hostilities in Europe involving Britain and France; it was formally finalized on 25 March 1802. The conditions were tenuous at best, and

the agreement quickly fell apart, leading to Britain's declaration of war on 18 May 1803.

ANCASTER ASSIZE. Beginning on 23 May 1814 and lasting into June, an assize, a session of the Court of King's Bench, was held at Ancaster, UC, near **Burlington Heights**. Put on trial were 19 Canadians who were charged with treason. As extreme examples of dissension among the populace in UC, these men had been sympathetic to the American cause, some of them having marauded through southwestern UC, and had been captured in incidents such as the **skirmish at Nanticoke Creek** (13 November 1813). Eight of the guilty were hanged at Burlington Heights on 20 July, while others lingered in prison until they were pardoned and banished after the war. The session became known as the "Bloody Assize."

ANGUS, SAMUEL (1784–1840). This officer was born in Philadelphia and joined the USN as a **midshipman** in 1799 on board the USS *Constellation*. The next year, he received a head injury during action with the French *La Vengeance* (during the **Quasi-War with France**, 1798–1800), and it is to this lingering injury that his later periods of mental derangement have been attributed. Later in 1800, he was wounded again and nearly lost his left arm. Angus also served through the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and took a furlough in 1806–1807 for a voyage in the merchant service.

In 1807, Angus was promoted to **lieutenant** but saw little active employment. In 1811, his poor health kept him from a post in the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1805), but he was able to take command at **Black Rock, New York**, in the autumn of 1812 where Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** ordered him to open a naval dockyard. Angus acquired several **merchantmen** and began outfitting them for war. He also participated with some of his men in Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November 1812). When Chauncey visited the post late in December, he became dissatisfied with Angus's conduct and for a short time had him detained.

In 1813, Angus secured an appointment to the **Delaware flotilla**, of which he took command at the end of April. In June, he was promoted to **master commandant**, and on 29 July he made the unsuccessful **assault on His Majesty's Sloop Martin** (29 July 1813),

during which the British captured one of his **gunboats**. For this he was widely criticized, and a court of inquiry, though praising his bravery, concluded he had conducted the affair improperly.

In January 1814, Angus was sent to the U.S. Sloop *John Adams* and, once he had outfitted it, sailed under flag of truce to Europe with peace ambassadors. During this time, he experienced at least two periods of what was considered temporary insanity.

Angus advanced to **captain** in 1816, but he never saw any service afloat. His increasingly vitriolic petitions for appointments finally resulted in his dismissal in 1824. He spent the rest of his days seeking a reversal of this decision, living on a small pension with a large family. He died at Geneva, New York, and his widow eventually received an increased pension in compensation for the wounds Angus had suffered.

APALACHICOLA RIVER, FLORIDA. This river drains into the Gulf of Mexico at a point about 115 miles east of **Pensacola, Florida**. Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** based his operations from here during the summer and fall of 1814 as he undertook preliminary operations in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

APPLING, DANIEL (1787–1817). A native of **Georgia**, Appling entered the **U.S. Army** as a **lieutenant** in the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** in 1808 and was promoted to **captain** in April 1812. The record does not show his employment during 1812–1813, but in April 1814 he was promoted to **major**. His skillful conduct at the **skirmish on Sandy Creek** (30 May 1814) earned him a **brevet** promotion to **lieutenant colonel**. He was sent to **Plattsburgh, New York**, soon after to take command of the **rifle unit** there, which had been commanded by the late Lieutenant Colonel **Benjamin Forsyth**. Appling was breveted to **colonel** as a result of his actions at the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814).

He resigned his **commission** in 1816 and died the next year in **Alabama**.

ARBUTHNOT, JAMES (?–1817). This officer was **commissioned** a **lieutenant** in the **RN** in 1810 and was recognized for valiant conduct

in actions against the French. He rose to **commander** in 1813 and commanded HM Sloop *Avon* on 1 September 1814 south of Ireland when it encountered the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813), Captain **Johnston Blakeley**. The resulting night action lasted about an hour and led to the British surrender. Arbuthnot was wounded; information about his subsequent career is lacking.

ARGUS (1803) (USN). With Lieutenant **William Allen** commanding in June 1813, the *Argus* carried William Crawford to France as the new minister for the **United States** and then cruised off the west coast of England, where it seized and destroyed 19 **merchantmen** before being captured by His Majesty's Sloop *Pelican*, Commander **John Maples**, on 14 August in the St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales. The **Admiralty** sold it in 1814.

Type: 16-gun **brig**. Launch: 1803, Boston. Actual armament: (1813) two 12-pdr lg, 18 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 94' 6" bp × 28' 2" × 12' 8" dh, 298 tons. Crew: 142.

ARGUS (1813) (USN). Launched at **Baltimore** in 1813, this **ship-sloop** was named to commemorate the first *Argus* (1803) but was burned by the Americans to prevent its capture during the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August 1814).

ARIEL (USN). The vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. The British raid at **Buffalo, New York**, on 30 December 1813 missed destroying the **schooner**, but it spent the winter aground near Buffalo and was lost the next spring during a salvage attempt.

Type: 4-gun schooner. Launch: 1813, **Erie, Pennsylvania**. Actual armament: (1813) four 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 75 tons. Crew: 40.

ARMISTEAD, GEORGE (1780–1818). Armistead was born in **Virginia**. He joined the early U.S. Army in 1789 as a **commissioned** officer and left it during its reductions in 1800. The next year, he was in the army again as a **lieutenant** in the Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery and Engineers and within a year had transferred to the new **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and sent to **Fort Niagara**, where

he advanced to **captain** in 1806. From 1807 until 1812, he served at **Fort McHenry** but returned to Fort Niagara after the war started.

In 1813, Armistead transferred into the **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery** as a **major** and was present at the **battle of Fort George** (27 May) and was later sent to **Washington** with dispatches and captured British flags. He was then sent to take command at Fort McHenry and commanded there during the British attack on **Baltimore** (12–15 September 1814). For this service, he was **brevetted to lieutenant colonel**, and the citizens of Baltimore rewarded him with a silver punch bowl, resembling a 13-inch British **shell**.

He remained in command at Fort McHenry until his death due to a heart ailment.

ARMISTICE. A temporary cessation of hostilities.

ARMSTRONG, JOHN (1758–1843). Born in Carlisle, **Pennsylvania**, Armstrong was actively involved against the British in the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He later became involved in state politics and was a U.S. senator from 1800 to 1804, after which he served for six years as the U.S. ambassador to France.

Although prone to controversy and on poor terms with President **James Madison**, Armstrong was made a **brigadier general** in 1812 and then secretary of war on 13 January 1813. While he revitalized the Department of War and saw that young and promising young officers, such as **Winfield Scott** and **Jacob Brown**, were promoted, Armstrong's term was less than successful. He mismanaged a number of campaigns, either by interfering with commanders in the field or by sending them obtuse and contradictory orders. His greatest failure was being unable to get the known enemies, Major General **Wade Hampton** and Major General **James Wilkinson**, to cooperate during **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813). He made similar errors in 1814, and his refusal to support Brigadier General **William Winder** (Madison's choice) when he took command of the Tenth **Military District** in July 1814 and the resulting **burning of Washington** (24–25 August) led to his resignation and replacement by **James Monroe**; he formally resigned his post on 4 September.

Never again employed in a public office, Armstrong returned to

life as a successful landowner and agriculturalist, publishing his version of events in *Notices of the War of 1812* in 1836.

ARMY OF THE NORTHWEST. See HARRISON'S CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTHWEST; HULL'S CAMPAIGN ON THE DETROIT RIVER.

ARTIFICER. In the **artillery**, this is the soldier who prepares fuses for bombs or **shells**. It also refers to a military blacksmith, cooper, or other skilled craftsman.

ARTILLERY. The heaviest weapons of the age, artillery existed in numerous forms. The "guns" included weapons often referred to as cannons: **garrison guns**, **long guns**, **field guns**, and **carronades**. They were classified by their "natures," that is, the weight of shot they fired; a 24-pdr fired a shot weighing 24 pounds. **Howitzers** and **mortars** were classified according to the diameter of the shot fired; an 8-inch mortar fired a shot measuring 8 inches in diameter.

The term was also used loosely to refer to military **units** specializing in the use of artillery.

ASP (1813A) (USN). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** captured the British **merchantman** *Elizabeth* near **Kingston, UC**, on 11 November 1812 and converted it for war service in 1813. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 2-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1808, near **York, UC**, as the merchantman *Elizabeth*. Actual armament: (1813) one 24-pdr lg, one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 57 tons. Crew: 27.

ASP (1813B) (USN). This vessel was acquired by the **USN** at **Washington** early in 1813 for use in the **Potomac flotilla**. It was attacked and briefly captured by a British naval party on 14 July 1813 and was set afire. Its crew regained the **schooner** and extinguished the flames, and it continued to serve through the balance of the war.

Type: 2-gun schooner. Launch: ? as the **merchantman** *Adeline*. Actual armament: one 18-pdr lg, two 18-pdr crde.

ATLAS (AMERICAN LETTER OF MARQUE). See *ST. LAWRENCE* (1813).

AVON (RN). Under Commander **James Arbuthnot**, the *Avon* sank after a battle with the U.S. Sloop ***Wasp* (1813)**, Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley**, on 1 September 1814 south of Ireland.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1805, Falmouth, UK. Actual armament: (1814) two 9-pdr lg, one 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde, one 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' upper deck length, × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

– B –

BAINBRIDGE, JOSEPH (1780–1824). Brother of **William Bainbridge**, Joseph entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1799 and saw action in the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805), during which he participated in **Stephen Decatur**'s destruction of the captive USS *Philadelphia* at Tripoli on 16 February 1804. In June 1812, he was a **lieutenant** commanding the U.S. Brig ***Siren*** at **New Orleans** but succeeded in getting a transfer to the eastern seaboard. He was promoted to **master commandant** in March 1813 and given command of the U.S. Sloop ***Frolic***. In February 1814, Bainbridge left Boston on his first cruise and succeeded in seizing some **prizes** before his vessel was captured by HMS ***Orpheus***, Captain **Hugh Pigot**, and HM Schooner ***Shelburne***, Lieutenant **David Hope**, in the Florida Straits on 20 April. A **court-martial** later cleared him of blame for losing the *Frolic*. He was promoted to **captain** in November 1814, but his reputation for intemperance kept him from receiving another **commission** afloat.

BAINBRIDGE, WILLIAM (1774–1833). Bainbridge was an experienced merchant seaman when the **USN** **commissioned** him a **lieutenant** in 1798 in the U.S. Schooner *Retaliation*. Later that year, two French **frigates** captured the **schooner**, making Bainbridge the first **USN** officer to lose a vessel. Promoted to **captain** in 1800, he had command of the USS *Philadelphia* when it was captured on 31 October 1803 during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805).

Bainbridge took command of the USS ***Constitution*** in September 1812 after Captain **Isaac Hull** requested a leave from duty and sailed from Boston, as **commodore**, in company with the U.S. Sloop ***Hor-***

net early in October; the USS *Essex* was supposed to join the **squadron** but missed the rendezvous. The **battle of the Constitution versus HMS Java (1805)** (29 December 1812) took place off Brazil, where Bainbridge defeated the British **frigate** in a hard-fought action but was forced to scuttle the demolished *Java*. As with his brother officers who won single-**ship** actions, the **U.S. Congress** voted him a gold medal in honor of his victory, and he was praised widely.

He did not sail again during the war, after which his career was marked by disappointment and controversy.

BALL. The lead projectile, about one inch in diameter, fired by a **musket**, .68 inch in diameter in British muskets and .64 inch in diameter in American muskets.

BALL PROPERTY, SKIRMISHES AT THE (July–September 1813). Peter Ball owned property just west of **Niagara, UC**, which included cultivated fields and surrounding woods. It lay between **Two** and **Four Mile Creeks** and therefore between the American and British lines during the **blockade of Fort George** (1 July–9 October 1813) and was the scene of several skirmishes between these forces.

The first occurred on 8 July. Guided by Lieutenant **William Merritt (UC Militia)**, the **light company** of the **1/8th Regiment of Foot** went to a place near Ball's early that day to retrieve boxes of medical supplies that had been buried there during the battle of **Fort George** (27 May). Sent to cover this force were about 100 native warriors (**Cayugas, Delawares, Mohawks, Onondagas, Ottawas, and Ojibwas**) under **Blackbird** and **John Norton**. After the medical supplies had been retrieved, the natives engaged one of the nearby American **pickets**, prompting a force several hundred strong (composed of the **Thirteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and probably the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** and **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**) to counterattack in force across Ball's fields and those of the neighboring Butler family. The natives drew them toward the woods and ambushed about 40 infantry under Lieutenant Joseph Eldridge of the Thirteenth, who was killed along with 17 others; 12 were captured. The violence of the native attack and treatment of the captives outraged the Americans. Merritt attempted to intervene but was warned to stand clear. The natives suffered three wounded.

On 11 July, a party of British native allies (probably Ojibwas and **Nipissings**) attacked eight Second Dragoons near Ball's, killing two and capturing one.

On 17 July, another skirmish broke out, gradually involving about 1,000 men on each side; the British force was composed of the **1/1st** and 8th **Regiments of Foot** and numerous native warriors under Norton and Blackbird; the Americans included elements of the **Eighth, Twelfth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **Second U.S. and Light Artillery**; and the Second Dragoons, commanded by Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott**. The lines moved back and forth across the fields, firing continually but without making close contact. Casualty figures were uncertain, and both sides claimed victory.

On 14 August, Brigadier General **Peter Porter** with Major **Cyrenius Chapin** with 220 volunteers and 144 native allies engaged a body of natives near Ball's and, after some fierce fighting, put them to their heels. The British native allies had at least nine killed, five wounded, and 12 taken prisoner. The **New York Seneca** warriors treated the dead, injured, and captured with such extreme barbarity that it raised a sharp protest from Major General **Francis de Rottenburg**. The next day, the two native parties were engaged at Ball's again with the British side getting the upper hand.

On 6 September, **regulars** and natives from both sides engaged for three hours across the fields with light casualties and no decisive winner.

BALLARD, HENRY E. (?–1855). Ballard entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1804 and advanced to **lieutenant** in 1810. He was the first lieutenant in the *USS Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, during its cruise of 1815, when it captured *HMS Cyane*, Captain **Gordon Falcon**, and *HMS Levant*, Captain **George Douglas**, on 20 February 1815. Stewart put Ballard in command of the *Levant*, which was subsequently captured by three British **frigates** led by *HMS Leander*, Captain **Sir George Collier**, on 11 March off the Cape Verde Islands. Ballard became a **master commandant** in 1816 and **captain** in 1825.

"BALL'S BATTLE" (30 July 1813). Hearing late in July 1813 that the British might attack **Fort Stephenson**, Major General **William**

Harrison ordered 300 of the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** under Colonel Samuel Wells and a **squadron** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons** (including Captain Joseph Markle's **dragoons, 12-month volunteers** from **Pennsylvania**) under Major James V. Ball to reinforce the fort. En route via **Fort Seneca** on 30 July, the force was fired on by a party of British native allies. Ball formed one of his **troops** for an attack and charged the warriors, killing or wounding 20 of them and suffering only two wounds in return. The natives retreated, and Ball returned to the column, having won "Ball's Battle."

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND. Baltimore was founded in 1729 near the mouth of the Patapsco River. By 1812, it had a population of 41,000, the third-largest city in the **United States**, and was a center for transshipment and industries, such as shipbuilding, and a key base for **privateers** from 1812. Once the **Chesapeake Bay** region became vulnerable to British raids and attacks during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813), Mayor Edward Johnson and the city council took steps to prepare the city defenses. They formed the Committee of Public Safety in April 1813 to help fund the equipment and training of **militia** and the improvement of **fortifications** that Major General **Samuel Smith** was overseeing. In August 1814, they created an elected body, the Committee of Vigilance and Safety, and backed Smith's further ambitious preparations. The result was the successful defense of their city when the British attacked in September.

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ATTACK ON (12–15 September 1814). Although an attack on **Baltimore** had been under discussion since the beginning of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814), Cochrane waited for nearly two weeks after the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August) before committing to the expedition.

The British were unaware that their reception at Baltimore would differ greatly from what they had seen at their **capture and occupation of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June 1813); at Washington; or at **Alexandria, Virginia**, during Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September 1814). From the spring of

1813, Major General **Samuel Smith** of the **Maryland Militia** had been in command of preparations with the full support of the city, state, and federal governments.

The city lay at the base of the harbor, which was on the Northwest Branch of the Patapsco. The entrance to this narrow inlet was blocked by a boom, sunken hulks, and up to 11 **barges** (two guns each) of Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla** with about 350 USN personnel. On the west point of the entrance stood **Fort McHenry**, which held 36 French 42-pdr **long guns** (lg) and a **garrison** of nearly 1,000 men (**Corps of Artillery; Twelfth, Thirty-sixth, and Thirty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry; Maryland Militia; and some Sea Fencibles**) under Lieutenant Colonel **George Armistead**, while to the east was the Lazaretto Battery with three guns manned by men from Barney's flotilla. To prevent a landing west of Fort McHenry via the Ferry Branch (the south branch of the river), there was Fort Babcock (six 18-pdr lg), Fort Covington (up to 10 heavy guns), and Fort Lookout (seven guns) and one more small battery. The first three were held by seamen from Barney's flotilla and the USS *Guerriere*, and some **Virginia Militia** held the fourth. Just before the arrival of the British, the command of this part of the city, except for the naval parties, was given to Brigadier General **William Winder**, who was greatly dissatisfied with having to serve under Smith; Commodore **John Rodgers** commanded all naval detachments.

In the days immediately before the British arrived, a massive military and civilian force (including a proportion of slave labor) had fortified Hempstead Hill on the city's east side. This consisted of nearly a mile and a half of trenches on the ridge joining eight batteries, which held 62 guns. These were manned by seamen and **U.S. Marines** from the *Guerriere* and a **regiment** of Maryland Militia **artillery. Infantry** support came from elements of two **brigades** of Maryland Militia, a **battalion** of **Pennsylvania Militia**, and some U.S. Marines. Tentative plans had even been made to fortify buildings in the city if necessary.

General Smith used Baltimore's "City Brigade," the Third Maryland Brigade (about 3,200 men in five regiments of infantry and smaller **units** of **cavalry, rifles**, and artillery), as his advance. On 11 September, Brigadier General **John Stricker**, its commander, took up a position about four miles east of Hempstead Hill at a narrow

point on Patapsco Neck. He placed his infantry here and sent part of his cavalry and rifles forward to watch the British.

After arriving at the Patapsco River on 10 September with a **fleet** of about 50 warships, the British began landing about 4:00 A.M. on 12 September at North Point, near the tip of Patapsco Neck. Led by Major General **Robert Ross**, with Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** in attendance, the **1/85th Regiment of Foot** and the **light companies** of the **1/4th**, **1/21st**, and **1/44th Regiments of Foot** followed in time by the rest of these latter units and detachments of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** and the **Royal Sappers and Miners**; they totaled about 2,500 men. About 1,350 men also landed from the 2nd and 3rd Battalions of **Royal Marines**, the **Royal Marine Artillery** (and presumably men of the **Rocket Corps** and the **Rocket Troop**) and **RN** officers and seamen. To provide a diversion to the land force, Cochrane sent some of the smaller warships up the river toward Baltimore.

While the landing was still under way, Ross advanced westward with the **light infantry** around 8:00 A.M., covering about four miles before halting; the heat and humidity were oppressive and took its toll on the troops. About 10:00, the column advanced, and shortly thereafter the opposing light infantry began skirmishing. About 2:00 P.M., with a guard of about 50 men, Ross and Cockburn rode up to inspect the action, and Ross was hit by a rifle bullet and soon died. Command now devolved on Colonel **Arthur Brooke** (44th Foot), who hurried to the scene and pushed the column forward where it engaged more infantry and artillery sent forward by Stricker.

Stricker succeeded in enticing the British to his position. With one of his **units** in reserve, he formed a line of his entire force behind a fence just inside Godley Wood, spanning the width of Patapsco Neck. Before them lay an old field about 500 yards wide, and here Brooke arrived and deployed his **skirmishers** and main line under American artillery fire, which he returned with guns and rockets. Brooke sent the 4th Foot to flank Stricker's left, for which Stricker made adjustments. With part of the remaining units in line and some behind, waiting to deploy as they reached the field, Brooke ordered a slow advance about 3:50.

Stricker's left had difficulty deploying, and under their first fire a portion of the units broke and ran. The rest of the line delivered vol-

leys and independent fire, but Brooke ordered a quickened advance, and as the British rushed forward, Stricker's line withered and broke. Brooke declared that the action, which became known as the battle of North Point (or the battle of Godley Wood among some authorities), lasted about 15 minutes. Some of the British referred to it as a second "**Bladensburg Races.**" It had been a bloody affair, however; the British reported 38 dead, 251 wounded, and 50 missing, while Stricker claimed 24 dead, 139 wounded, and 50 captured.

Stricker was able to congregate his units and withdraw toward Hampstead Hill, where Smith positioned him to the left, and outside, of the **fortifications**; Smith also ordered Winder to this place with part of his **brigade** of **regulars** and **militia**. Brooke camped on the battlefield, where his men suffered without cover during a night of rain.

On 13 September, Brooke advanced and came within sight of Hampstead Hill around 11:00 A.M. He was surprised at the strength of the American position and soon heard rumors that 20,000 men stood ready to repel him.

Meanwhile, the famous naval bombardment of Fort McHenry had begun that morning around 8:00. Sixteen of Cochrane's shallower draft warships were within five miles of the city by late on 12 September. By the next morning, five **bomb vessels** and the **rocket ship** *Erebus* moved to within two miles of Fort McHenry and opened fire. The Americans returned this, and Cochrane pulled his vessels back just out of range and resumed a tremendous bombardment with **mortars**, guns, and rockets that lasted until early the next morning. It is said the British fired between 1,500 and 1,800 rounds of mortars alone and that 400 of them fell on Fort McHenry, although surprisingly few casualties were reported. It was during this remarkably explosive display that **Francis Scott Key** formed the idea for his famous "Star Spangled Banner." Around 3:00 A.M. on 14 September, Cochrane ordered a 1,200-man boat assault on the shore west of McHenry, but this never made shore because of the fire of the auxiliary forts.

While the bombardment was going on, Brooke was retreating. Cochrane had sent Cockburn a note questioning the value of attacking Hampstead Hill. Cockburn showed it to Brooke, who called a council of war from which Cockburn excused himself, not wanting, presum-

ably, to “encourage” Brooke into action as it was suggested he had done with Ross during the march to Washington. After exchanging prisoners and wounded with the Americans, the British marched back to North Point and were all embarked by mid-afternoon on 15 September.

The defense of Baltimore was unprecedented. It reestablished American confidence and was used as a bargaining chip in peace negotiations. The attack was a black eye for Cochrane and the military, although Brooke’s decision to withdraw in the face of such formidable fortifications was probably the right one.

BALTIMORE RIOTS. On 22 June 1812, rioters attacked and destroyed the office of the *Federal Republican*, a newspaper in **Baltimore** that had printed its strong opposition to the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812) Declaring their loyalty to the nation’s cause, mobs chased supporters of the newspaper and its policies out of town over the next few weeks. When Alexander Hanson, one of the publishers of the newspaper, attempted to set up shop late in July, his new accommodations were destroyed in a series of skirmishes that led to numerous casualties. The local **Maryland Militia** was called out, but few showed up, and their commander, Brigadier General **John Stricker** (who suffered a severe eye wound due to a rock thrown by a rioter), had to dismiss them. A third attempt to open the newspaper in August produced similar results. The state took little action to quell the riots by force, and legal procedures led to no significant convictions. The riots stressed the sense of loyalty felt in some quarters and warned **Federalists** about when and where they should express their discontent.

BARATARIANS. These people, of many different nationalities and mixtures thereof, inhabited the area around Lake Barataria, an enclosed bay on the southwestern edge of the Mississippi River delta. From 1805, smugglers, up to 5,000 in number, under the leadership of **Jean Lafitte**, made their headquarters on Grande Terre Island at Lake Barataria, its narrow entrances guarded by **batteries**. Apart from some legal trade, the Baratarians, as they became known, were essentially pirates who trafficked in every form of merchandise, including slaves, and found a willing marketplace in **New Orleans**,

where they had many ties to influential citizens. They were renown as capable seamen with well-developed skills in the use of small arms and **artillery**. A key reason why the **USN** was always short of men in this area was that mariners found more lucrative employment with the Baratarians.

Through Commander **Nicholas Lockyer, RN**, the British attempted unsuccessfully to enlist Baratarian help against the **United States** in September 1814. To put an end to illegal activities at Barataria, on 16 September a combined **USN** and **U.S. Army** force attacked the stronghold on Grand Terre Island, where, having met no opposition, they burned the homes and storehouses and took several vessels. This was another setback for Lafitte and his associates, who were under much pressure from the state and federal government, and helped to prompt him to offer the services of the Baratarians to the defense of New Orleans. This offer was finally accepted by Major General **Andrew Jackson** in December 1814. Their seemingly endless supply of ammunition and their expertise as gunners made the Baratarians invaluable during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December 1814), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815). For their services, President **James Madison** pardoned Lafitte and the Baratarians in February 1815. Many of the men later continued in the smuggling trade.

BARCLAY, ROBERT HERIOT (1785–1837). A Scot by birth, Barclay joined the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1797, seeing plenty of action against the French, and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1804. He was present at the battle of Trafalgar in 1805 and lost his left arm in battle in 1808. Barclay was advanced to the rank of **commander** by Admiral **John Warren** at **Bermuda** in March 1813 (the **Admiralty** confirmed this on 13 November 1813) and sent to the Great Lakes at the head of a small detachment of officers and men.

He reached **Kingston** in April and took command from Master and Commander **Hugh Earl, PM**. Commodore **Sir James Yeo** soon arrived and ordered Barclay to take command of the **PM squadron on Lake Erie**. Barclay arrived at **Amherstburg, UC**, early in June; took over from Master and Commander **George Hall, PM**; and was soon cruising Lake Erie in the *Queen Charlotte* with several smaller war-

ships. He failed to keep the **USN** squadron under Master Commandant **Oliver Perry** blockaded at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, and by early August, Perry controlled the lake and cut off supplies to the British forces. In consultation with Major General **Henry Procter**, Barclay decided to fight Perry in an attempt to reopen supply lines to the **Niagara Peninsula** and sailed in HM Sloop ***Detroit* (1813)** and five other warships on 9 September. The resulting **battle of Put-in-Bay** the next day led to Perry's victory and the loss of the British squadron. Barclay was severely wounded but survived to face a **court-martial** in September 1814 in England, where he was absolved of blame for the loss of his squadron.

He did not receive another command afloat except for a brief **commission** in 1824, when he was promoted to **captain**. He remained on **half pay** for the rest of his life.

BARCLAY'S SQUADRON. Commander **Robert Barclay** took over command of the **PM squadron** on the upper lakes when he arrived at **Amherstburg, UC**, in the first week of June 1813 and made it an arm of the **RN**. It consisted of the *Queen Charlotte*, *General Hunter*, and *Lady Prevost* (built specifically for the PM); the converted merchantmen *Chippewa*, *Little Belt* (1813), and *Erie* (1810); and a number of small transports. They were crewed by the two dozen officers and men whom Commodore **Sir James Yeo** had sent from **Kingston, UC**, with Barclay and 120 officers and men from the **Lake Erie PM**. There were also about 50 officers and men of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles** and 100 from the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**. All PM seamen were entered into the **RN**, as were their officers. Master and Commander **George Hall** refused to serve in the squadron, but other men, such as Lieutenant Frederic Rolette, remained afloat. During his first cruise on Lake Erie, Barclay narrowly missed intercepting Master Commandant **Oliver Perry** as he sailed from **Black Rock, New York**, with five converted merchantmen on 18 June.

HM Sloop ***Detroit* (1813)** was launched at Amherstburg in the middle of July, but its outfitting was delayed by a lack of supplies, ordnance, and manpower. Barclay sailed to **Long Point, UC**, several times to await supplies and reinforcements while also keeping an eye on the progress of **Perry's squadron** at **Erie, Pennsylvania**. Barclay and Major General **Henry Procter** wanted to attack Erie, but

Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** did not send them the men they needed. Procter's **siege of Fort Meigs** (May), later **investment of Meigs** (late July), and failed **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August) reduced the strength of his force and thereby helped prohibit cooperation with Barclay.

When Perry sailed out of Erie in the first week of August, Barclay returned to Amherstburg to await the outfitting of the *Detroit*. Perry's squadron blocked his supply route to Long Point, and Barclay appealed to Yeo and **Sir George Prevost** for more RN seamen and the materiel needed to properly equip his squadron. Little equipment and fewer than 40 seamen reached him by the second week of September; a second detachment was in transit from Kingston at that time.

When Barclay sailed to battle Perry, he left the *Erie* behind, his line consisting of two **ships**, one **brig**, two **schooners**, and a **sloop**. They mounted 28 **carronades** and 35 **long guns** and were manned by about 450 officers and men. Forty percent of these were in the RN or from the former PM, while the rest were **infantry** from the Procter's army.

BARGE. This term applied to a variety of open boats. In the **RN** and **USN**, a barge on board a warship was usually reserved for transporting senior officers, although it was frequently used for inshore operations. A typical barge pulled 10 oars, was 37' long and 7' 9" wide and drew up to 4' 3" of water.

Vessels resembling large row **galleys** were also known as barges, as was the case in Captain **Joshua Barney's** **flotilla** out of **Baltimore**. Some of them appear to have been 75' long and 15' wide with a 4' depth of hold, while others were 50' × 12' × 3' 6". They were powered by up to 20 oars aside and a **lateen-rig**.

BARNEY, JOSHUA (1759–1818). Born in **Baltimore**, Barney went to sea in 1772 in a **merchantman** and saw plenty of action in the Continental navy during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He then returned to the merchant trade and in 1794 rejected the offer of a **commission** in the **USN** because he believed he deserved a higher ranking on the seniority list. Barney spent from 1795 to 1802 as an officer in the French navy but managed to avoid direct conflict with his native seamen during the **Quasi-War with**

France (1798–1800). In 1802, he returned to the **United States**, where he continued his merchant business and got involved in politics.

At the outbreak of hostilities in 1812, he cruised in the **privateer** *Rossie* and netted \$1.5 million in **prize** money. The next year, he made a proposal to the government for defending the **Chesapeake Bay** region from British depredations. He recommended to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** that a flotilla of **barges** be built to combat the British. Jones accepted the proposal and made Barney an acting **master commandant** in the USN.

He was advanced to **captain** in April 1814, and the next month **Barney's flotilla** sailed down the Chesapeake in search of the British and fought the **skirmishes off Cedar Point, Maryland** (1 June), and **St. Leonard Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June). After being ordered to destroy his flotilla to avoid its capture, Barney ended up manning a **battery** with his naval force during the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), where he was severely wounded in the thigh.

The following October, Barney resumed command of the remains of the flotilla he had left at Baltimore, but peace soon brought an end to his naval service. Widely admired, he died from complications of the Bladensburg **musket** ball that had eluded surgeons' attempt to remove it.

BARNEY'S FLOTILLA. Early in July 1813, **Joshua Barney** submitted to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** a plan for the protection of **Chesapeake Bay** against the British forces in Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September). He proposed the construction of 20 **barges**, or large row **galleys**, which was accepted.

Evidence shows that Barney eventually had 24 barges of various sizes constructed but that he was unable to man them all. In May 1814, when he heard that Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** had established a base at **Tangier Island, Virginia**, he decided to set out in that direction in hopes of making an attack. He took only part of his flotilla and a number of **merchantmen** under convoy. Late in June 1814, Barney reported that the flotilla under sail actually consisted of three 75-foot barges, each armed with a single 24-pdr **long gun** (lg) and a 42-pdr **carronade** (crde); four 75-foot barges, an 18-

pdr lg, a 32-pdr crde; two 50-foot barges, an 18-pdr lg, a 24-pdr crde; four 50-foot barges, a 12-pdr lg, a 24-pdr crde; one “look-out boat” with an 18-pdr **gunnade**; a galley with one 18-pdr gunnade; two **gunboats**, one 24-pdr lg; and the **sloop-rigged Scorpion** (1812), in some accounts referred to as a **blockship**, one 24-pdr lg, one 18-pdr gunnade, two 12-pdr crde. Left at Baltimore were eight 50-foot barges, one 12-pdr lg, one 18-pdr gunnade, and three smaller barges, one 12-pdr lg, one 12-pdr crde, which saw service during the British **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

On 1 June, the flotilla encountered two small British vessels and armed boats (under Captain **Robert Barrie**) sailing north toward the **Patuxent River** and gave chase, resulting in the **skirmish off Cedar Point, Maryland** (1 June). Barney ended up in the Patuxent River, and when Barrie advanced with his force on 8 June, Barney sailed up St. Leonard’s Creek. This led to a series of **skirmishes at St. Leonard Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June) and his final break out of the creek for a position high up the Patuxent. When Major General **Robert Ross** landed, with Cockburn, at the head of more than 4,500 effectives at Benedict, Maryland, on 18 August, Barney withdrew his force up the river past Nottingham. Jones then ordered him to destroy his flotilla to prevent it falling into British hands, and this was done on 22 August. Barney then led his men to join the forces gathering for the defense of **Washington**. Near here, he and his men fought hard in the final stages of the losing **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August).

BARONET. In terms of British honors, a baronet stood in status above a **knight** but was below a baron. A baronet was referred to as “Sir,” and the honor was hereditary.

BARRACKS. These were accommodations for military or naval personnel.

BARRIE, ROBERT (1774–1841). Barrie was born in **Florida** and entered the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1788. He sailed on a voyage of discovery under Captain George Vancouver in the early 1790s and by 1802 had been promoted to **post captain**. One of the **RN**’s successful

frigate captains, Barrie captured a vessel in October 1810 bearing Lucien Bonaparte, brother of **Napoleon**.

In January 1813, Barrie transferred into HMS *Dragon* at Barbados, and that summer he joined Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September); when Warren departed in September, Barrie remained to **blockade** the bay with a number of other warships. Between then and January 1814, Barrie's **squadron** captured nearly 85 American vessels, although when bad weather restricted his movement, numerous **privateers** and the U.S. Sloop *Adams* managed to escape into the Atlantic.

Barrie's **ships** and men were worn out and short of provisions by the time Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** returned to the Chesapeake from **Bermuda** late in February 1814, but the demands of the service could not allow Cockburn to send Barrie for a much-needed refit. As a result, he remained active in the development of **Tangier Island** as a base of operations and then played a vital role in limiting the activity of Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla**. He participated in the **skirmish off Cedar Point, Maryland** (1 June), and the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June), during which he tried to provoke Barney into action by executing an ambitious series of raids on the banks of the **Patuxent River**. Barrie and the *Dragon* were finally allowed to go to **Halifax** for a refit in July.

In September, Barrie participated in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815) and then was sent to join Cockburn again for the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815), which was his final service of the war.

Following the war, Barrie lived briefly in France and then served as senior officer on the Great Lakes between 1819 and 1834. He was knighted three times, the highest honor being the Knight Commander of the Bath (**KCB**) in 1840, by which time he was a **rear admiral**.

BARRON, JAMES (1769–1851). Born in **Virginia**, Barron went to sea in the merchant trade with his father in 1781. He entered the USN as a **lieutenant** in 1798 and received his **captain's commission** the next year in recognition of his skill as a seaman and commanding officer. As newly appointed **commodore** of the USN **squadron** in the Mediterranean, Barron departed from **Hampton, Virginia**, in June 1807 in the USS *Chesapeake* but was intercepted by HMS

Leopard in the incident that became known as the *Chesapeake-Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). A **court-martial** found Barron culpable for this debacle and suspended him from service. He left the **United States** and did not return until after the War of 1812. The repercussions of his court-martial mixed with personal conflicts to lead to Barron's duel in March 1820 with Captain **Stephen Decatur**, in which he shot and killed the popular naval hero. He remained in the USN on **half pay** for the rest of his life.

BASDEN, JAMES LEWIS (1785–1856). Basden entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the Scotch Brigade (the 94th Regiment of Foot from 1802) in 1800 and was promoted to **lieutenant** the following year. He served in India, was transferred to the **2/89th Regiment of Foot** as a **captain** in 1806, and arrived with his **regiment** at **Quebec** in October 1812.

The 89th moved into **UC** early in 1813, and Basden was sent to **York** with the **light company** in June. In July, however, he was publicly reprimanded by a general order from **Sir George Prevost** for having taken “a female of improper character” with him and was relieved of his light company command; he was reinstated in September. Basden was involved in the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December 1813). During the winter, his light company patrolled the **Thames River** valley from the British post at **Delaware** (and were criticized for their wild behavior among the civilians), and he commanded the detachment that was beaten back (suffering a casualty rate of about 30 percent) at the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March 1814); Basden received a severe leg wound. In a letter to Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**, Prevost criticized Basden's troop deployment in the action.

Despite a besmirched record, Basden led his **company** well during the 1814 actions at **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), and **Fort Erie** (August–September) and was **brevetted to major** in 1815 (backdated to 30 December 1813).

Basden remained in the army after the war, was promoted to major in 1821, and was brevetted to **lieutenant colonel** in 1830. He was made a Knight Commander of the Bath (**KCB**) in 1826 and served in Canada during the Rebellions of 1837. He retired with full pay in 1843.

BASTION. This five-sided structure in a **fortification** was built on an angle to the field with two faces and two flanks and opened in the rear to the inside of the fortification. It was a position for guns mounted on the faces and the flanks and was faced with sod or bricks.

BATEAU. Derived from a French term, this referred to an open, flat-bottomed, keel-less, sharp-ended boat powered by oars and/or a simple rig, commonly used for transportation of troops, arms, and provisions.

BATHURST, HENRY, LORD (1762–1834). Secretary for war and the colonies. This statesman inherited his father's peerage in 1788, becoming the Third Earl Bathurst. He entered Parliament as a **Tory** in 1792 and rose in prominence, holding a number of governmental posts. Following the assassination of Prime Minister Spencer Perceval (11 May 1812), Bathurst became the secretary for war and the colonies in Prime Minister **Lord Liverpool**'s cabinet. He was fully involved in the complex affairs of the **Napoleonic Wars** (1803–1815), which made the war with the **United States** of secondary concern. Nevertheless, in conjunction with Undersecretary of War and the Colonies **Henry Goulburn** and **Lord Melville** at the **Admiralty**, he directed and supported the activities of the military and naval commanders in America. The balance of his life was devoted to the affairs of his nation, which earned him great respect among allies and adversaries alike.

BATTALION. This is a force generally consisting of between 600 and 1,000 men in 10 **companies**. The term was often used interchangeably with the terms “**regiment**” and “**unit**,” although in the **British army** many regiments consisted of more than one battalion. In the **U.S. Army** and state **militias**, the term was often used to refer to two, three, or four companies of the same unit in the field.

BATTALION COMPANY. This was one of eight **companies** out of 10 companies in a **regiment**, stationed in the center of the **unit** when it is in formation. The **grenadier** and **light companies** flanked the battalion companies in formation.

BATTALION OF INCORPORATED MILITIA, UC. On the recommendation of Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** and others, the Militia Act of March 1813 changed the organization of the **UC Militia**. It created the Battalion of Incorporated Militia, which was to be formed from officers and men, up to 45 years of age, in the **sedentary militia**, who were **commissioned** or enlisted for 18 months unless the war ended sooner. They were outfitted and trained along the lines of a regular **regiment**. The embodied **companies** were **garrisoned** at **Prescott, Kingston, York, and Fort George**. In the spring of 1814, they were gathered at York under Captain William Robinson, who was made a **lieutenant colonel** of the **militia**. At this time, the **battalion** numbered about 400 officers and men.

Elements of the Incorporated Militia were present at the following actions: 1813, **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September); and the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August).

Among its prominent officers were **John Tucker** and William Robinson.

BATTERY. This was any position where **artillery** was mounted for action against an enemy. A **company** of artillery was sometimes referred to as a battery.

“BATTLE HILL.” See **LONGWOODS, UC, SKIRMISH AT THE** (4 March 1814).

BATTLE HONOR. This was awarded by the British Crown to **regiments** for distinguished service in a particular action or series of actions. For instance, the **41st Regiment of Foot** was granted the battle honors of **“Detroit”** (16 August 1812), **“Queenston”** (13 October 1812), **“Miami”** (for actions against **Frenchtown, Maryland**, 22 January 1813), and **“Niagara”** (the various actions of 1814). These words were emblazoned on the regiment's **colors**.

BAY OF QUINTE, UC. This 50-mile-long, winding stretch of water was between the Prince Edward Peninsula on **Lake Ontario** and the mainland of **UC**. It extended east nearly as far as **Kingston** and west to a portage near the village of Newcastle (near modern-day Trenton,

Ontario). It was part of the **bateau** route on the north shore of Lake Ontario.

BAYARD, JAMES ASHETON (1767–1815). Delaware senator and peace commissioner. Born in **Maryland**, Bayard entered the law profession in 1787 in **Delaware**, where 10 years later he served as the state's congressman. He was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1805 and, as a **Federalist**, opposed British abuse of American rights but favored negotiation over war as a means to solve trade and **impressment** disputes. Once the war began, however, he supported its prosecution.

After Czar Alexander I offered to facilitate a treaty between Britain and the **United States**, President **James Madison** appointed Bayard to go to Russia with **Albert Gallatin**, meet **John Quincy Adams** there, and begin negotiations in 1813. This effort failed, but the men remained abroad, and, joined by **Henry Clay** and **Jonathan Russell**, they entered into the 1814 negotiations that produced the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Bayard worked tirelessly on the commission, although his role was of minor importance. Bayard died the following summer.

BAYNES, EDWARD (?–1829). Baynes entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1783 and had risen to **captain** in the 1/32nd Regiment of Foot in 1795 when that **unit** saw action at Santo Domingo in the West Indies. In 1807, he was made the **lieutenant colonel** of the **Nova Scotia Fencibles**, and in February 1812 he became the **colonel** of the newly formed **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment**.

In July 1812, Baynes was appointed **adjutant general** for the North America command at **Quebec** and thereby became an important and influential member of Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost's** staff. He issued most of Prevost's general orders and corresponded with leading military commanders on Prevost's behalf as well as on a personal level. Baynes conducted the negotiations that produced the **Prevost-Dearborn Armistice** (August 1812), and his only chance for active command came when Prevost put him in charge of the assault that became the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May 1813). Prevost was present throughout the action and approved Baynes's unpopular decision to withdraw his force. Thereafter,

Baynes accompanied Prevost and administered his command efficiently. He was promoted to **major general** in June 1814.

Baynes went on **half pay** in 1816 and retired in 1828.

BAYONET. This was a knifelike weapon with a triangular cross section that could be fitted to the end of a **musket** for hand-to-hand fighting while still allowing the musket to be fired. A typical bayonet measured 17 inches in length and fastened to the musket by means of a 4-inch socket. In the **British army**, the **95th Regiment of Foot**, outfitted with **rifles**, were issued sword bayonets (23 inches long, 1.75 inches wide) for use with their Baker rifles.

BAYONNE DECREE (17 April 1808). Napoleon's reaction to the American **Embargo Act** of 1807 was to declare that since American vessels were not allowed to conduct foreign trade, any American vessel arriving at a port in France or one of its allied nations should be treated as a British vessel and immediately impounded.

BEAVER DAMS, UC. This hamlet was on the headwaters of **Twelve Mile Creek** about 15 miles southwest of **Fort George, UC**.

BEAVER DAMS, UC, BATTLE OF (24 June 1813). Brigadier General **John Boyd** ordered Colonel **Charles Boerstler** to lead a 600-man detachment from **Fort George** to destroy a British outpost at the home of John Decew near the hamlet of **Beaver Dams, UC**. Boerstler's force, consisting mainly of his **Fourteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** with detachments of the **Sixth** and **Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, the **Light Artillery** and **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and mounted **militia** under Major **Cyrenius Chapin** set out on 23 June, slept that night at **Queenston**, and proceeded at dawn toward Decew's.

On Mountain Road about one mile east of Beaver Dams, the detachment was ambushed by native warriors from the **Grand River Six Nations** under Captain **William Kerr**, the **Seven Nations** of **LC**, and others from the **Tyendinaga** tract near Kingston and **Moravian-town, UC**, under Captain **Dominique Ducharme**. Boerstler let his rear-guard fight the first part of the action against Kerr's men and then attacked Ducharme's with the Fourteenth. Unable to stop the

native force with line-of-battle tactics, Boerstler withdrew and after three hours of fighting prepared to make a forced retreat to Fort George. Lieutenant **James Fitzgibbon, 1/49th Regiment of Foot**, arrived with his half company of **light infantry** and bluffed Boerstler into surrendering his detachment and its equipment.

American losses were estimated at 30 dead and 50 wounded, while the natives were said to have lost between 5 and 15 dead and dozens wounded. Fitzgibbon was given official credit for the victory, which greatly displeased Kerr, Ducharme, and their men since it was the natives who made the attack and won the battle. Decades later **Laura Secord** was prominently recognized for having warned Fitzgibbon of Boerstler's advance.

BECKWITH, SIR THOMAS SYDNEY (1772–1831). Beckwith entered the **British army** as a **lieutenant** in 1791 and went to India, where he saw much action and rose to **captain** in 1794. After returning to England in 1798, Beckwith joined the **unit** that became the **95th Regiment of Foot**, the Rifle Regiment, where he showed outstanding skill as a leader of men and in the practice of **light infantry** tactics. Promoted to **lieutenant colonel** in 1803, Beckwith gained much acclaim for his service during the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814). Having been wounded and promoted to **colonel** and in ill health, he was sent home and in 1812 was appointed the assistant **quartermaster general** in Canada; that same year, he was made a **KB**.

Despite his obvious talents, Beckwith's only active service during the War of 1812 was during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813), when he participated in the actions at **Craney Island** (22 June), **Hampton** (25–26 June), and **Ocracoke Inlet** (12–16 July).

Following the war, he went without a command until 1829, when he was sent to India and promoted to **lieutenant general**. He died at Bombay.

BELVIDERA (RN). Under Captain **Richard Byron**, the *Belvidera* eluded an American **squadron** under Commodore **John Rodgers** on 23 July 1812, southwest of **Massachusetts**. On 25 December 1813, the *Belvidera* captured the U.S. Schooner **Vixen** (1813), Sailing Mas-

ter **Thomas Hall**, off **Delaware**. The *Belvidera* remained in service until 1846, when it was reduced to a hulk.

Type: 36-gun **fifth-rate frigate**. Launch: 1809, Deptford, UK. Actual armament: (1810) 26 18-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 145' $\frac{3}{4}$ " ld \times 38' $2\frac{1}{2}$ " \times 13' 3" dh, 945 tons. Crew: 274.

BELVIDERA'S PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF THE VIXEN (1813) (25 December 1813). Under the command of Captain **Richard Byron**, HMS *Belvidera* was cruising off **Delaware** on 25 December 1813 when the U.S. Schooner *Vixen* (1813), Sailing Master **Thomas Hall**, came into sight. Having been lately purchased into the USN, the **schooner** was on its way to New Castle, Delaware, where it would be outfitted for war with guns, equipment, and a full crew. The *Belvidera* overtook the *Vixen* after a chase of two hours and forced its surrender. Byron sent the *Vixen* as a **prize** to **Bermuda**.

BERESFORD, JOHN POO (1766–1844). Beresford entered the RN in 1780 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1790. He was a **commander** by 1795 and was promoted to **post captain** that year. He saw extensive service against the French around the turn of the century and moved into HMS *Poictiers*, in 1810, arriving on the **North America Station** in the late summer of 1812.

On 18 October of that year, north of **Bermuda**, the *Poictiers* fell in with the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1805), Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, and HM Sloop *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, which Jones had just captured. Beresford recaptured the *Frolic* and also seized the *Wasp*.

Beresford returned to England late in 1813 in *Poictiers* and was made a **baronet** in 1814 and a **KCB** in 1819. He became a **rear admiral** in 1814 and ended his active career as an **admiral** and lord of the **Admiralty**.

BERKELEY, SIR GEORGE CANFIELD (1753–1818). Berkeley became a **post captain** in 1780 and a **rear admiral** in 1799. In 1807, he commanded the **North America Station** and issued orders for commanding officers to be especially vigilant about checking all American vessels for British deserters. He specifically ordered the

interception and investigation of the USS *Chesapeake* and thereby initiated the incident that became known as the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). He fully supported the action taken by **Captain Salusbury Humphreys** of HMS *Leopard* and was later recalled to England. Whereas Humphreys never had another command afloat, Berkeley was soon posted to Lisbon. He rose to the rank of Admiral of the White in 1814 and was made a Knight Grand Cross of the Bath (**GCB**) in 1815.

BERLIN DECREE (21 November 1806). Napoleon retaliated against the British **Fox blockade** of 16 May 1806 with this decree, which was the beginning of his **Continental System**. Announced on 21 November 1806 in Berlin, it prohibited all trade with British ports and called for the seizure of products from Britain or its dependencies. It was essentially a **paper blockade** to which British officials responded with further **orders in council** in January and November 1807. French officials did not begin seizing **merchantmen** under this pretense until the summer of 1807.

BERMUDA. Located about 850 miles east of Charleston, **South Carolina**, this island was first used as a base by the **RN** in 1795. In 1809, the **Admiralty** purchased Ireland Island, on the extreme northwest of Bermuda, for development as a naval base, but during the war the **RN** had a small dockyard at St. George on the eastern end of the island, where the **warships** anchored in Castle Harbor. From 1811, it was attached as a colony to **BNA** for administrative purposes, and Major General George Horsford commanded there during the war. Although its resources were limited, it was considered less vulnerable to attack by the Americans than **Halifax, Nova Scotia**, and was used as a staging place for campaigns against the eastern seaboard of the **United States**.

BIDDLE, JAMES (1783–1848). Biddle was born in Philadelphia, **Pennsylvania**, and entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800. He was on board the USS *Philadelphia*, Captain **William Bainbridge**, when it was captured at **Tripoli** in October 1803.

In 1812, he served as first **lieutenant** in the U.S. Sloop *Wasp*, Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, when it captured HM Sloop *Frolic*,

Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, north of **Bermuda** on 18 October 1812, only to be captured later in the day by HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**. He was promoted to **master commandant** in March 1813 after being **exchanged** and briefly commanded the **Dela-ware flotilla**. He was given the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* but was **block-aded** at New London, **Connecticut**, by the British until late in 1814, when his and some other vessels escaped but managed to get only to **New York City**. He took advantage of a storm to elude British block-aders and sailed from New York City on 20 January 1815. On 23 March, he captured HM Sloop *Penguin*, Commander **James Dickin-son**, off Tristan de Cunha in an action that lasted 22 minutes and in which he received a severe neck wound. Biddle scuttled the *Penguin* and then rendezvoused as planned with the U.S. Sloop *Peacock*, Mas-ter Commandant **Lewis Warrington**, the next day. On 27 March, HMS *Cornwallis*, Captain John Bayley, came into view and chased but failed to capture the *Hornet*.

Biddle returned safely to the **United States**, was promoted to **cap-tain** as of February 1815, and enjoyed a successful and influential career in the USN, receiving from Congress a gold medal in 1816 to commemorate his capture of the *Penguin*.

BINGHAM, ARTHUR BATT (1784–1830). This officer attended the **RN Academy** at Portsmouth, England, for four years, beginning in 1796. He entered the RN as a supernumerary the next year and was made a **midshipman** in 1801. He passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1803 and was promoted to that rank in 1804 and to **commander** in 1809. Bingham saw plenty of action against the French and in No- vember 1810 moved into HM Sloop *Little Belt* (1801), which en- countered the USS *President*, Commodore **John Rodgers**, on 16 May 1811 in an incident that became known as the *President–Little Belt Affair*. Bingham asked for a **court-martial** to investigate his conduct, but the **Admiralty** refused to hold one, promoting him in- stead to **post captain** in February 1812. He continued to be actively employed and was lost at sea while commanding HMS *Thetis*.

BISSELL, DANIEL (?–1833). A native of **Connecticut**, Daniel Bis- sell entered the army of the **United States** in 1792 as an **ensign**. He was a **captain** in the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in 1799 and

its **lieutenant colonel** from 1808. In August 1812, Bissell was promoted to **colonel** of the **Fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and led his **regiment** to the **Niagara Frontier**, where it was part of **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November). In 1813, the regiment was at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June) and present during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). It joined Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) and was at the **skirmish at French Creek** (1–2 November). Bissell was sent ahead of the main body to secure the location below the rapids near **Cornwall, UC**, and was not at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

In March 1814, Bissell was promoted to **brigadier general**, and he commanded the First Brigade in Major General **George Izard's** Right Division of the Ninth **Military District** at **Plattsburgh, New York**. He went with Izard to the Niagara Frontier in the autumn and commanded the U.S. detachment at the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Bissell remained in the army until honorably discharged in 1821. He ended his days at St. Louis, Missouri.

BISSHOPP, CECIL (1783–1813). Born in England, Bisshopp joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1799, later serving in Russia as an aid to **Sir John Warren** and in expeditions in Spain and the Netherlands. Having risen to the rank of **major** with the **98th Regiment of Foot** in 1812, he was sent to UC that spring as **inspecting field officer** of the **militia** with the local rank of **lieutenant colonel**.

Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** put Bisshopp in command of British forces between **Chippawa** and **Fort Erie**, where, on 28 November 1812, Bisshopp's **regulars** and militia repulsed two attacks in Brigadier General Alexander **Smyth's failed invasion of UC**. When the Americans captured **Fort George** on 27 May 1813, Bisshopp withdrew his force to join with Brigadier General **John Vincent** in his retreat to **Burlington Heights**. He commanded the reserve during the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June).

Early in the **blockade of Fort George**, Bisshopp proposed a **raid on Black Rock, New York**. This assault took place on 11 July and was largely successful. Bisshopp, however, suffered wounds that

proved mortal, and he died around 16 July. He had proven to be a widely respected officer and was deeply mourned.

BLACKBIRD. This **Potawatomi** chief co-led the attack on the American force leaving **Fort Dearborn** on 15 August 1812 that became known as the **massacre at Fort Dearborn**. Blackbird saw action with the British during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October) and the **skirmishes at the Ball property** (8 July) and in 1815 received a medal from the British for his services.

BLACK HAWK (1767–1838). Also known as Makataimeshekiakiak, this **Sauk** chief grew up in **Illinois Territory** and came to oppose American expansion into the region. In 1812, he supported **Tecumseh** and was loyal to the British. He led the **investment of Fort Madison** in September 1812, and in 1813 he and his warriors joined the British at the **investment and siege of Fort Meigs** (May and July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August), but they became disenchanted with the British, and Black Hawk led them back to their homelands.

BLACK HOOF (?–1831). Reputed to have been an active warrior during the **Seven Years' War** (1756–1763) and the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), Black Hoof (Catecahassa) was well known by 1800 as an effective **Shawnee** leader. His efforts to live in peace with the Americans put him in direct conflict with **Tecumseh** and the **Prophet**. When the war started, Black Hoof favored peace with the Americans, even though he was dangerously wounded by an unidentified American during a council meeting in January 1813. He had been with Brigadier General **William Hull**'s force briefly in the summer of 1812, and in September 1813, he and about 100 Shawnee joined Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** and were with him at the **battle of Moraviantown, UC** (5 October).

BLACK PARTRIDGE (?–1848). Also known as Wabunsee, this chief of the **Potawatomi** favored a neutral stance and after the **massacre at Fort Dearborn** (15 August 1812) managed to protect the several dozen survivors. He signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814).

BLACK REGIMENTS. The French raised **regiments** of former slaves in the West Indies in the 1790s and discovered they were more resistant to the diseases that decimated European regiments. The widespread belief that blacks would mutiny and provoke slave rebellions proved untrue, and the British adopted the practice by creating such **units** as the **1st, 2nd, and 5th West India Regiments**, which served in the War of 1812.

In 1813, the British also formed the **Corps of Colonial Marines** from runaway slaves at **Tangier Island in Chesapeake Bay**, which was later absorbed into a **Royal Marine battalion**. In Canada, the **104th Regiment of Foot** was said to have black pioneers, while the **Lincoln County Militia** had one **company** of blacks known as the **Colored Corps**.

The legislature of **New York** approved the recruitment of two black regiments late in 1814, but how far this plan advanced is uncertain.

BLACK ROCK AND BUFFALO, RAID AT (30 December 1813).

After the **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 December) and the **raids at Lewiston and Manchester, New York** (19 and 21 December), Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** moved his headquarters to **Fort Erie, UC**, where he planned his final stroke in the annihilation of American forces on the **Niagara Frontier** and retribution for the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December). On 29 December, he ordered Major General **Phineas Riall** to cross the **Niagara River** and destroy the American posts at **Black Rock** and **Buffalo**. Riall's force consisted of about 1,000 **regulars** (**1/1st, 1/8th, 1/41st, 2/89th, and 100th Regiments of Foot**, supported by a **battery of Royal Regiment of Artillery** near Fort Erie), 50 of the **Incorporated Militia**, and about 400 of the "**Western Indians**."

On the American side, Brigadier General **George McClure** had lost all credibility because of his highly unpopular decision to burn **Niagara, UC**, and was unable to amass many loyal troops. Previously, Governor Daniel Tompkins had ordered Major General **Amos Hall** to support McClure, and Hall now took command, having urgently petitioned the local counties for support. He gathered about 2,000 men, including about 140 under Lieutenant Colonel **Cyrenius Chapin**, 100 **Canadian Volunteers** under Major Benajah

Mallory, and nearly 100 native warriors. Of these, about 1,200 men were present on 30 December spread out among batteries and posts from Black Rock to Buffalo.

Just after midnight on 29 December, Riall crossed the **Niagara River** with the main body of his force to the north of Squaw Island about two miles downstream of Black Rock. Here his **light infantry** captured an American **picket** and secured the **Conjocta Creek** and moved south toward Black Rock. At first light, a second wave of British (about 350 of the 1st Foot) crossed the river to land at Black Rock. Hall ordered a strong portion of his force to fend off this attack. The British **bateaux** grounded in shallow water, and the troops suffered many casualties as they struggled ashore. Meanwhile, Riall's wing was marching to outflank Hall, who sent detachments to hold them off. Defending Black Rock on two fronts at once, his militia's ammunition running out, the men skulking away from battle, Hall put up a brave fight but was forced to fall back toward Buffalo. The British followed, and skirmishing continued, but Hall was not able to mount a new defense and retreated. Having secured Black Rock, Riall's men soon occupied Buffalo.

American casualties were estimates at best and amounted to at least 30 killed and 40 wounded, with about 130 taken prisoners. The large number of British casualties attests to the ferocity of the fight: 31 dead, 72 wounded, nine missing.

As planned, Riall had most buildings and all the stores and materiel (including eight pieces of **ordnance**) that could not be carried off set aflame. The British also burned the U.S. Schooner **Chippawa** and the U.S. Sloops **Trippe** and **Little Belt (1810)**, which had been cast high and dry on the shore near Buffalo during a recent gale, and two merchant **schooners** at Black Rock. Before withdrawing to Fort Erie, Riall sent a detachment downriver to destroy nearly every other building left standing, thereby leaving the entire Niagara Frontier devastated. Canadians had their retribution for the burning of Niagara, and Drummond had uncontested control of the Niagara River region.

BLACK ROCK, NEW YORK. This small settlement was located near the confluence of **Lake Erie** and the **Niagara River**. A raised shelf of blackish rock jutting out into the river created a small but suitable

anchorage. The **U.S. Army** camped nearby from 1812, eventually fortifying the place, and the first of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** were outfitted at nearby **Conjocta Creek** by Lieutenant **Samuel Angus** in the autumn of 1812.

BLACK ROCK, NEW YORK, RAID ON (11 July 1813). Shortly after the British initiated their **blockade of Fort George**, Lieutenant Colonel **Cecil Bisshopp** proposed to Major General **Francis de Rotenburg** that a raid be made against **Black Rock, New York**. His force, numbering about 250, consisted of elements of the **1/8th, 1/41st, and 1/49th Regiments of Foot** (Lieutenant **James Fitzgibbon's light infantry**), the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and the **Lincoln County Militia**. It crossed the **Niagara River** from **Chippawa** to a point above **Black Rock** before dawn on 11 July 1813 and surprised the **New York State Militia** guard who abandoned their **batteries**—the **Sailor's Battery** and **Forts Tompkins and Gibson**—and fled. Brigadier General **Peter Porter** barely escaped from his quarters and hurried off to form a counterattack.

Meanwhile Bisshopp's men burned the **blockhouses, barracks**, the naval yard, and the **schooner *Zephyr***; **spiked three 12-pdr long guns**; and seized four other guns, 180 barrels of salt, flour and whiskey, plus blankets, clothing, seven **bateaux**, and a scow. By delaying his departure to finish loading the goods, Bisshopp found himself attacked by Porter and a 300-man force including about 100 **regulars** (possibly from the **Sixteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and one of the **artillery regiments**) under Major William Cumming, New York State Militia, and volunteers and 30 **Senecas** under Farmer's Brother. Porter's attack was well formed and inflicted heavy casualties on the British while they departed.

The British suffered 13 killed, 27 wounded, and six missing. Bisshopp received fatal wounds and died several days later. Porter reported about three dead and 10 wounded, two of whom were natives and 15 or 20 taken prisoner. Bisshopp's detachment had been meant to reinforce Major General **Henry Procter** at **Amherstburg, UC**, and, subsequently, only a portion of the men in the 41st were sent to Amherstburg.

BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND. Bladensburg dates to its founding in 1742. It was six miles northeast of **Washington** and, by 1812, a busy port on the eastern branch of the **Potomac River**, at a crossing on the road to Annapolis and **Baltimore**.

BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND, BATTLE OF (24 August 1814).

It was only on 23 August 1814 that Major General **Robert Ross**, commanding an expedition on the **Patuxent River, Maryland**, as part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September), agreed with Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** that an attempt should be made to capture **Washington**. Late that day, they set out for that place, the town of **Bladensburg** lying in their path.

Although Brigadier General **William Winder**, commanding the Tenth **Military District**, had observed Cockburn's activities prior to the expedition and had closely watched Ross's advance into Maryland, he had still not formed a solid plan of action. He was distracted by news of Captain **James Gordon's raid along the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September) and by advice from such sources as Secretary of State **James Monroe**, who had spent days watching the British. Secretary of War **John Armstrong**, who opposed Winder's selection, offered no assistance, and President **James Madison** provided no decisive, unifying leadership. The situation bordered on chaos as Winder ordered various corps back and forth among different places and individual officers chose their own uncoordinated placements.

When the British intentions became clear late on 23 August, Winder began to concentrate his forces at Bladensburg. He chose positions on the west side of the **Potomac River** and across the bridge from Bladensburg. He did not post any part of his force in the town, choosing instead to have a **battery** of six **field guns** formed on the road to Washington near its junction with the road to nearby Georgetown. The **Maryland Militia**, under Brigadier General Tobias Stansbury, formed this first line of defense, manning the battery and flanking **infantry**; Monroe arrived and, without authority, removed a large part of this force to a position well behind the battery. Winder sent individual **companies** and **battalions** to flank Stansbury and to cover his rear in a second line. On hills about one mile behind Stans-

bury and overlooking the Washington road but widely separated from each other was a rough third line of more batteries and **units** of the **District of Columbia Militia**, more Maryland Militia, and elements of the **Thirty-sixth, Thirty-eighth, and Twelfth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**. Posted between them on both sides of the road were the 400 USN personnel and militia volunteers of Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla** and a **company** of the **U.S. Marine Corps**. A **squadron** of **Light Dragoons** (joined with militia **dragoons**) was present, and a regiment of **Virginia Militia** was approaching the field. In all, Winder commanded about 6,000 men. President Madison was present and addressed part of the troops; Armstrong was there, predicting defeat. Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** was onsite as well.

The British arrived at Bladensburg around noon, suffering under the oppressive heat and the fatigue of their hurried expedition. Rather than wait for his entire column to come up or to assess fully his opponent's position, Ross accepted Colonel William Thornton's suggestion to send his entire **1/85th Regiment of Foot**, a **light infantry unit**, with the **light companies** of the **1/4th, 1/21st, and 1/44th Regiments of Foot**, against Stansbury. Supported by salvoes of **Congreve rockets** from the **Rocket Troop** and the **Rocket Corps**, Thornton's force crossed the bridge (which had been thoughtlessly left standing), forded the river at several places, and, withstanding the sharp fire of the American batteries and **musketry**, soon sent Stansbury's people fleeing with most of their guns to join the force in the rear. A second line of infantry, supported by **artillery**, fired on the British, while the rest of the 44th had crossed further up the river, pushing back American **skirmishers** and moving toward the American left flank, while the rest of the 4th crossed and moved toward the American right flank. The rocket batteries were busily employed, while the remainder of the 21st and detachments of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, the **Royal Sappers and Miners**, and the **Royal Marine** units came up as reserves.

The Americans put on a stout defense at the third line, but the unrelenting British advance under the wild trajectories of the rockets sent many of the undisciplined militia to their heels. Winder frantically revised his positions and then began a confused withdrawal. Some of the sternest fighting happened at the naval battery, where Barney's men and the **marines** proved their worth before **spiking**

their guns and fleeing; Barney, seriously wounded in the thigh, was captured, but Cockburn and Ross personally saw to his immediate treatment. With Madison and his cabinet heading in different directions, Winder had no help in congregating a defense of Washington and abandoned it.

The fact that they defeated a stronger force prompted some of the British to term the battle the “Bladensburg Races” because of the unceremonious departure of many militia. The action, which lasted about one hour, cost Ross 56 men killed, 185 wounded, and more than 100 taken prisoner (during the whole campaign). The American losses were between 10 and 40 killed, 30 and 60 wounded, and about 120 captured.

“BLADENSBURG RACES.” See BLADENSBURG, MARYLAND, BATTLE OF (24 August 1814).

BLAKELEY, JOHNSTON (USN) (1781–1814). Born in Ireland, Blakeley moved with his family to **North Carolina** in 1783. He entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800, saw action during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805), and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807 and **master commandant** in July 1813. Blakeley supervised the building of the U.S. Sloop ***Wasp*** (1813) at Newburyport, **Massachusetts**, in the summer of 1813. Under orders to attack shipping in the English Channel, Blakeley sailed in May 1814. He seized more than a dozen **prizes**; attacked and captured HM Sloop ***Reindeer***, Commander **William Manners**, in the English Channel on 28 June; refitted his vessel at L’Orient, France; and then returned to cruising and beat HM Sloop ***Avon***, Commander **James Arbuthnot**, south of Ireland on 1 September. The former he burned, while the latter he left to sink when another British vessel came in view, threatening the damaged ***Wasp***. Blakeley and his crew were evidently lost at sea in the North Atlantic in October 1814. Blakeley and Captain **Charles Stewart** were the only **USN** officers to win two ship-to-ship actions against the British during the War of 1812. The **U.S. Congress** awarded him with a gold medal for his conduct posthumously and approved his promotion to **captain** from the beginning of his final voyage.

BLOCKADE. To impose a blockade on its enemy, a nation’s warships would patrol off selected ports or entire coastlines and prevent travel

to and from those ports by **merchantmen** or warships of any nation. The British **orders in council** imposed blockades of European coastline, and French responses such as the **Berlin** and **Milan Decrees** blockaded England, although they were only **paper blockades**. An actual blockade was difficult to maintain because of the limited number of warships available for such service and the harsh weather conditions under which they had to hold their stations.

A military blockade took place when a force was restricted from breaking out from its base, such as the British **blockade of Fort George** (July–October 1813).

BLOCKADES BY THE BRITISH. The British government did not order the **blockade** of American ports immediately in June 1812 since news of the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812) and of the revocation of the **orders in council** (23 June) had to be exchanged and contemplated. Nevertheless, British warships cruised off such places as **New York City**; Charleston, **South Carolina**, in October; and Savannah, **Georgia**, in November, unofficially blockading those ports. From the time he took command at **Halifax**, Admiral **Sir John Warren** asked the **Admiralty** for more **ships** and men to form effective blockades and meet his other responsibilities.

The British government announced its first official blockade on 27 November 1812 to cover the mouths of **Chesapeake Bay** and the **Delaware River**. This was extended by a new government order on 26 March 1813 to include the areas around **New York City**, Savannah, Charleston and Port Royal, South Carolina, and the Mississippi River. The Admiralty deployed more ships to support Warren and urged him to avoid depleting the blockade by executing inshore activities. Warren still lacked the number of ships needed, and, though his **squadrons** captured many blockade runners, plenty of others managed to venture out and return safely. Because of this, on 16 November 1813, Warren proclaimed an increased blockade to cover the entire U.S. coast from Long Island Sound to the southern limit of Georgia and around the mouth of the Mississippi River. His successor, Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**, extended the blockade to cover commercial vessels along the New England coast on 25 April 1814.

On the Great Lakes, there were several brief blockades, one exam-

ple being when Commodore **Sir James Yeo** kept part of his squadron off **Sackets Harbor** in late May and early June 1814. Elements of the **British army** maintained a military **blockade of Fort George** between July and October 1813.

HMS ***Phoebe*** and HM Sloop ***Cherub*** blockaded the USS ***Essex*** at Valparaiso, Chile, during February and March 1814.

Although the blockades did not inhibit all traffic, they did hamper American trade and did prevent American warships from leaving port. The USS ***Constellation***, for example, was ready for sea in 1812 but did not escape from Chesapeake Bay until late 1814.

BLOCKADES BY THE UNITED STATES. Because of its small size, the **USN** was not able to execute any effective, large-scale **blockades**. Elements of the navy did establish temporary blockades, such as the U.S. Sloop ***Hornet***'s blockade of HM Sloop ***Bonne Citoyenne*** at Salvador, Brazil, in December 1812 and January 1813 and Captain John Shaw's use of **gunboats** to blockade Mobile Bay in April 1813.

Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** kept part of his squadron off **Kings-ton, UC**, and several other vessels off the **Niagara River** in August and September 1814, thereby preventing easy supply of the British army under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** on the **Niagara Peninsula**.

BLOCKHOUSE. Blockhouses varied greatly in their construction, often having two stories, the first for stores, the second used as a **bar-racks**. They were built strongly enough to withstand an attack, having **loopholes** and, when they stood alone, **palisades**. They were often the first buildings erected during the construction of a **fort**.

BLOCKSHIP. A vessel built as a floating **battery** of sorts was considered a blockship. Its speed and maneuverability were said to be sacrificed for the sake of carrying a heavily protected, powerful battery. Early in 1813, the **USN** bought, for the **Delaware flotilla**, two privately owned **cutters** and converted them into the blockships, the ***Buffalo*** and the ***Camel***, a project of much interest to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones**. A bulwark measuring 5 feet, 10 inches high was raised on each vessel's upper deck and covered with an iron-

reinforced grating. Into this box were placed **long guns** and **carronades**, and the box was painted yellow to resemble a load of cargo to fool an approaching enemy. It was intended that, if boarded by an enemy, the crew could defend itself with **musketry** and **pikes** from within their covered battery. Outwardly, the cutters were to maintain their rig, and it was said that they also retained their speed in service. Their special equipment did not secure victory, however, during the unsuccessful **assault on HM Sloop *Martin*** (29 July 1813).

BLYTH, SAMUEL (1783–1813). As a **lieutenant**, Blyth served aboard HMS *Confiance* (1796) under Captain **James Yeo** during the 1809 attack on French Guiana. He was promoted to **commander** on 5 September 1811 for heroic conduct during a small boat action against the French in the Mediterranean. Blyth commanded HM Sloop *Boxer* on 5 September 1813, when it encountered the U.S. Brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant **William Burrows**, off the coast of **Maine**. Blyth was killed by a round shot during the first **broadside** of the engagement, which the Americans won. Burrows suffered a fatal wound, and the two officers were buried together in Portland, Maine.

BOARDING PARTY. This was a group of seamen or **marines** delegated to capture another vessel by storming over its sides either from boats or from their own **ship**.

BOERSTLER, CHARLES (1778?–1817?). Born in Germany, Boerstler was a resident of **Maryland** and a Methodist minister when he accepted a **commission** in the **U.S. Army** as **lieutenant colonel** of the **Fourteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in March 1812. He marched his **unit** to **Black Rock** on the **Niagara River**, arriving there early in October. On 28 November, he landed with part of his **regiment** at Frenchman's Creek near **Chippawa, UC**, as part of Brigadier General **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** and skirmished briefly with the British before returning to the American side. Boerstler's regiment played a minor role in the **battle of Fort George** on 27 May 1813 and the **battle of Stoney Creek** on 6 June. His promotion to **colonel** came on 20 June, and he was sent from **Fort George** with a detachment of 600 men to destroy a British outpost on 24 June

but was ambushed by British native allies at the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June). A **court-martial** in February 1815 absolved him of blame for the defeat, and he left the army later that year.

BOIS BLANC ISLAND. This narrow island in the **Detroit River** opposite **Amherstburg, UC**, was home to hundreds of native people under **Tecumseh** in the summer of 1812.

BOMB. *See* SHELL.

BOMB VESSEL. This was the **RN**'s most specialized type of warship, as it was intended only for the bombardment of enemy land positions. The **RN** had 12 bomb vessels, or bomb **ships**, in 1812. They were **ship-rigged** and carried one or two large **mortars**, angled to maximize their effectiveness. The force of their detonation required reinforcement of the hull and numerous other adaptations. The crews received special training to perform this demanding operation effectively. Typical of this type of vessel was the *Ætna*.

BOMBARDIER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

BORGNE, LAKE. Situated just east of **New Orleans**, this body of water opens through the Mississippi Sound into the Gulf of Mexico, making it more a bay than a true lake. It is shallow and swampy along its shores. To the north of it is another saltwater bay named Lake Pontchartrain with New Orleans situated at its southwestern shore. It drains into Borgne through a number of narrow, twisting, shallow channels known as the Rigolets. In 1814, the deepest channel was guarded by a **battery**.

BORGNE, LAKE, BATTLE OF (14 December 1814). Following his **capture of Pensacola** (7 November 1814), Major General **Andrew Jackson** made his way to **New Orleans**, arriving there on 1 December. Among the many preparations he made to defend the city was to obtain the cooperation of Master Commandant **Daniel Patterson** of the **USN** to send a flotilla to **Lake Borgne** to watch for the approach of the British **fleet** under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**. Lieutenant **Thomas Jones** commanded the flotilla, his main strength

being five large **gunboats**, manned by about 180 men and each armed with a 24- or 32-pdr **long gun**, plus either four or six 6-pdr lg or 12-pdr **carronades** and **swivel guns**. There was also the **schooner** *Seahorse* with one gun and the **sloop-rigged** *Alligator* with a long 6-pdr and two 12-pdr carronades and a crew of 20. Jones's flotilla was on station in time to see the first of the British warships appear on 8 December.

After most of his fleet had arrived just east of New Orleans, Cochrane sent a flotilla of open ships' boats to attack Jones early on 13 December. Commander **Nicholas Lockyer** commanded this detachment, which consisted of 45 boats of all descriptions from the fleet, most armed with carronades and manned with upward of 1,000 **RN** personnel and shipboard **Royal Marines**.

Jones discovered his enemy approaching his anchorage at mid-morning on 13 December and withdrew westward; his orders from Patterson were to defend the passage into **Lake Pontchartrain** at all costs. Water levels were lower than normal, and it was only by lightening his vessels that he was able to elude the advancing British. Jones had sent the *Seahorse* to remove stores and ordnance from a shore battery on the north shore, but part of the flotilla attacked it. After a sharp skirmish, they withdrew, and the Americans blew up their schooner and shore emplacement during the evening to avoid capture. During the night, Jones could go no further and anchored about 15 miles from the entrance to Lake Pontchartrain.

Because of Jones's withdrawal, adverse currents, tides, and wind, Lockyer's force did not come within range of the Americans until the early morning of 14 December. After allowing his men an hour for food and rest, Lockyer launched his attack. His first target was the *Alligator*, which had not been able to stay with Jones. It was lightly armed and fell quickly. The rest of the British boats formed a long line abreast and moved up toward the American gunboats, which Jones had anchored in a line, **broadside** on, to block the channel and which opened a destructive fire on the British. The current having pushed two of the gunboats, one of them Jones's, out of position, Lockyer headed for these. The Americans repelled the attack, and both Jones and Lockyer were severely wounded, but after a vicious fight, the British hooked on, cut through the boarding nets, and swarmed over the gunboats. They then used them to join the attack

on the other gunboats, which fell into British hands. The action lasted about two hours.

The high casualty rate attests to the severity of the fighting. Lockyer reported 17 dead and 77 wounded, while Jones had 10 killed and 35 wounded. Both commanders received praise for their conduct. Much was made of the fact that Lockyer's men kept up their pursuit for 36 hours through inclement conditions in open boats before even entering the fight. Their success opened the way for a landing near New Orleans.

BOSTON (USN). This 28-gun **frigate**, launched at Boston in May 1799, was declared unfit for service in 1812 and burned at **Washington** to prevent its capture by attacking British in August 1814.

BOSTWICK, HENRY (1782–1816). Bostwick was born in **Massachusetts** and went to UC, where he became a lawyer, landowner, and civil officer in Norfolk County. He was made **lieutenant colonel** of the **Oxford County Militia** in February 1812. He was influential in gathering **militia** in August 1812 to join the force under Major General **Isaac Brock** during the **capture of Detroit** (16 August).

On 13 November 1813, he led a detachment of militia that captured a party of American raiders in the **skirmish at Nanticoke Creek**, for which he won praise in a general order. Bostwick was at the head of 500 **Oxford County** and **Norfolk County Militia**, who briefly resisted the force under Brigadier General **Duncan McArthur** at the **skirmish at Malcolm's Mills** on 6 November 1814. His older brother John (1780–1849) was a **captain** in the Oxford Militia and actively involved in events involving that unit.

BOWYER, FORT, MISSISSIPPI. This **fort** was located at the tip of a sandy peninsula on the eastern lip of Mobile Bay. Construction started following the American occupation of **Mobile** (15 April 1813), and in 1814 it consisted of a semicircular **battery** facing the sea that was joined by **curtains** to a **bastion** in the rear. Of the fort's 20 guns, only two 24-pdr long guns (lg) and six 6-pdr lg appear to have been properly mounted on the seaside battery during the British attack on 15 September.

BOWYER, FORT, MISSISSIPPI, ATTACK ON (15 September 1814). Intent on capturing **Fort Bowyer** and control of the anchorage at **Mobile**, a British **squadron** consisting of the two 20-gun **ship-sloops** *Hermes* and *Carron* and the two 18-gun **brig-sloops** *Sophie* and *Anaconda* arrived off Mobile on 12 September. Captain **William Percy** commanded the squadron, while Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** commanded a detachment of **Royal Marines** (60 of them were marching there from **Pensacola**) and a corps of trained and uniformed **Creek** warriors.

Wind and tide kept the warships from approaching the fort until 13 September, by which time the **marines** had arrived. Nicholls sent about 180 Creek warriors, in British uniforms, ashore; he remained on board because of a severe attack of dysentery. The land force began an attack with a small **howitzer** on 14 September and renewed it the next day, when Percy brought his warships in to bombard the fort during the afternoon. The *Sophie* and *Carron* got close enough for their main **batteries** of **carronades** to have effect, while the *Hermes* crept closer and took the brunt of the fort's fire.

The fort was defended by Captain **William Lawrence** and about 160 men of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Infantry**; a small reinforcement of the **Third U.S. Regiment of Infantry** had nearly reached the fort by water before the British arrived. They handled their few serviceable, heavy guns with skill; fought off a weak assault by the marines; and then hammered the *Hermes*, causing it to drift out of the action. Percy was able to regain his position but once more had his cables shot away, and the **ship** went aground within range of the fort. The Americans fired on it without mercy, and at length Percy was required to abandon the *Hermes* after setting it on fire; Lawrence's men later retrieved most of the **ordnance** from the wreck.

Lawrence was victorious in his defense of Fort Bowyer, suffering four dead and five wounded, while the British had up to 32 dead and 47 wounded; Nicholls, on board the *Hermes*, received a splinter wound that cost him the sight of one eye. This was a sharp setback for the British and invited Major General **Andrew Jackson**'s subsequent **capture of Pensacola** (7 November 1814).

BOWYER, FORT, MISSISSIPPI, CAPTURE OF (12 February 1815). During their retreat following the failed **final assault at New**

Orleans (8 January 1815), Major General **John Lambert** and Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** moved their force in stages to Dauphine Island on the edge of Mobile Bay. This dry and hospitable place allowed the troops and seamen to recuperate from the exhausting conditions at **New Orleans**. Once the last of the troops were landed, the commanders decided to capture **Fort Bowyer**; whether this was to be the beginning of a renewed campaign through **Mobile** is moot.

On 8 February, Lambert and the **1/4th, 1/21st, and 1/44th Regiments of Foot** were landed at Mobile Point about three miles from the fort, followed by a detachment of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** under Lieutenant Colonel **Alexander Dickson**. The **Royal Engineers** under Lieutenant Colonel **John Burgoyne** and **Royal Sappers and Miners** landed and began siege works. These were ready by 11 February, and Lambert invited the Americans to surrender. Terms were arranged, and the next day Lieutenant Colonel **William Lawrence** marched out at the head of 370 men, most of them from the **Second U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. Brigadier General **James Winchester**, who held command at Mobile, was subsequently criticized by Major General **Andrew Jackson** for not having been more active in defending the place. On 13 February, a **ship** arrived bearing the first report of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814), and the British soon withdrew.

BOXER (RN). Under Commander **Samuel Blyth**, the *Boxer* was badly damaged and captured on 5 September 1813 in a battle with the U.S. Brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant **William Burrows**, off Portland, Maine. The USN repaired the *Boxer* and sold it.

Type: 12-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1812, Redbridge, UK. Standard armament: two 6-pdr lg, 10 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 84' ud × 22' × 11' dh, 179 tons. Crew: 50.

BOYCE, THOMAS. He was a **lieutenant** in the East India Company's Bombay Marine in command of the **brig Nautilus** when it was attacked and captured by the USS *Peacock*, Captain **Lewis Warrington**, in the Strait of Sunda, off Java on 30 June 1815. When Boyce proved to Warrington that the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had been ratified, the brig was returned to him.

BOYD, JOHN PARKER (1764–1830). Born in **Massachusetts**, Boyd served briefly in the state **militia** before traveling to India in 1789 to seek his fortune. He became a prominent military commander there and returned to the **United States** a rich man in 1798. He was appointed **colonel** of the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in 1808 and fought at the **battle of Tippecanoe** in November 1811 under Governor **William Harrison**, of whom Boyd was very critical.

In August 1812, Boyd was promoted to **brigadier general**, commanding forces in New England. He led a **brigade** ashore at the **battle of Fort George** in May 1813 and held command on the **Niagara Peninsula** during that summer before joining Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). When Wilkinson and his second in command, Major General **Morgan Lewis**, became too ill to command the force, Boyd found himself in charge and engaged a British force half his strength under Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison** at the **battle of Cryslers Farm** (11 November). For his subsequent defeat in this engagement, Boyd was sharply criticized and never given another active command. He left the **U.S. Army** in 1815.

BOYLE, THOMAS (1776–1825). Boyle's record begins with his operation of a **merchantman** out of **Baltimore** in 1792. He became a successful local merchant and a member of the **Maryland Militia** and when the war began quickly undertook to become a **privateer**. His first command in 1812 netted \$500,000 in **prizes**, and in 1813 and 1814, in various vessels, he captured 27 prizes and eluded British warships on several occasions, sailing off South America and then in the waters around Britain, where he declared his own personal **blockade** of his enemy's homeland.

Boyle first sailed in the ***Chasseur***, the "Pride of Baltimore," in the summer of 1814, and it was in this **schooner** that he attacked and captured HM Schooner ***St. Lawrence***, Lieutenant **Henry Gordon**, in the Florida Straits on 26 February 1815, earning the distinction as the only American privateer to take a British warship.

Following the war, he pursued the merchant trade again, had adventures with the illegal traffic of arms to rebels in South America, and later fought off a pirate attack in the Gulf of Mexico. Boyle died while making a voyage in a new *Chasseur* out of Baltimore.

BREASTWORK. Like a **parapet** in a **fort**, this was a mound of earth or similar construction raised for the protection of soldiers from enemy fire and as a position from which they could engage the enemy.

BREVET. Promotion by brevet meant that an officer's rank was raised one level but that his pay was kept at the former level. It was generally used to recognize an outstanding accomplishment during combat.

BRIDGEWATER, BATTLE OF. *See* LUNDY'S LANE, BATTLE OF (25 July 1814).

BRIG. A brig is a two-masted, **square-rigged** vessel.

BRIGADE. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

BRIGADE OF ARTILLERY. This term referred to a **subunit** in a **battalion** in the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** and the **Royal Horse Artillery**. It was commanded by a **captain**.

BRIGADIER GENERAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

BRIGANTINE. This vessel resembles a **brig**, except its main mast has a **fore-and-aft rig** with no square sails.

BRIG-SLOOP. The rating of a **brig** changed to brig-sloop when it was commanded by a **commander** (RN) or **master commandant** (USN).

BRINE, AUGUSTUS (1769–1840). The son of a naval officer, Brine is known to have passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1790 and received a **commission** at that time. He rose to **commander** in 1798 and **post captain** in 1802. He commanded the 74-gun ship **Medway** in the South Atlantic on 12 July 1814, when he pursued and captured the U.S. Sloop **Siren**, Lieutenant **Nathaniel Nicholson**.

The record shows that he was later retired from active service but achieved the rank of **rear admiral** before his death.

BRITISH ARMY. On the eve of the War of 1812, the British army was one of the strongest, best-equipped, and effectively trained forces in the world. In December 1811, it had more than 300,000 men under arms at stations in England and abroad. It comprised about 200 **regiments** of **infantry**, **cavalry**, and **artillery**, many of them consisting of two or more **battalions**.

Headquarters for the army was split between two places: the **Horse Guards**, a range of buildings at Horse Guards Parade in London, oversaw the infantry, cavalry, and some auxiliary services; the Board of Ordnance controlled the artillery, engineers, and other services. By 1812, the Horse Guards dominated the administration of the army, with the commander in chief being the **Duke of York**. The duke dealt with matters relative to the functioning of the military, although he consulted closely with the head of the Board of Ordnance (a separate department of the government that supplied guns, ammunition, and other stores to the navy and the army) and Secretary of State for War and the Colonies **Lord Bathurst**. It was Bathurst, a member of the British Cabinet, who communicated the government's policies and directives to commanders in the field. For the purpose of coordinating operations with the **RN**, Bathurst worked in close consultation with the First Lord of the Admiralty, **Lord Melville**, also a Cabinet member.

Governor in Chief and Lieutenant General **Sir George Prevost** commanded His Majesty's forces in **BNA** at **Quebec**, but the vastness of this territory had led to a virtual split in command with Lieutenant Governor and Lieutenant General **Sir John Sherbrooke** handling affairs on the Atlantic coast from his headquarters at **Halifax**. Sherbrooke communicated directly with Bathurst and the Horse Guards, but, because he was subordinate to Prevost, he sent his dispatches through Prevost's office (or copies of them to Prevost), which is how communications from England were sent as well.

The British army had about 10,000 men under arms in **BNA** in the spring of 1812: about 5,600 in **LC** and **UC** and 4,400 within Sherbrooke's command. In **LC** and **UC**, there were eight regiments (of

varying strength), two of which were **fencible regiments**. There were about 1,200 officers and men on the frontier of UC.

The war brought numerous changes in the officers commanding at the various critical posts, but the command structure remained the same. The strength of the **regular** army forces gradually swelled with the arrival of reinforcements from abroad and from the creation of provincial corps. The end of the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) in the spring of 1814 resulted in a large increase in the size of the force in BNA, raising it to nearly 31,000 effectives in LC and UC by the end of the year. With the forces under Sherbrooke and those deployed on the eastern seaboard of the **United States** and at **New Orleans**, the size of the British army in North America grew to more than 48,000.

BRITISH INDIAN DEPARTMENT. In the 1750s the British formed this department to promote good relations with the aboriginal nations around the Great Lakes for defensive purposes and to maintain their support in the fur trade. Its manpower increased through the subsequent decades, gaining considerable influence among the natives and, at times, conflicting with the goals of the **British army**. Among its most important officers during the war were William Claus, **Robert Dickson**, **Matthew Elliott**, **William Kerr**, and **John Norton**.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA (BNA). One of Britain's overseas possessions, BNA included the colonies of **LC**, **UC**, **Nova Scotia**, **New Brunswick**, **Prince Edward Island**, and **Cape Breton Island**. Joined to it for command purposes were also the fishing station of **Newfoundland** and the colony of **Bermuda**. Each had its own civil government and military commander. The population of the Canadian colonies and Newfoundland is estimated to have been less than 500,000 in 1812. It was administered from **Quebec**, LC, where **Sir George Prevost** was the governor in chief, or governor general.

BRITISH PROCLAMATION OF WAR. *See* PROCLAMATION OF WAR, BRITISH.

BROADSIDE. In naval terms, this referred to all the guns on one side of a vessel that could be brought to bear on an enemy. To fire a broadside meant to fire all the guns at once or by groups or individually.

Broadside strength was determined by the weight of metal that could be fired in one broadside when all the guns were **single-shotted**.

BROCK, ISAAC (1769–1812). A native of the Isle of Guernsey, Brock entered the **British army** at the age of 15 as an **ensign** in the **8th Regiment of Foot**. He transferred into the **49th Regiment of Foot** as a **captain** in 1791 and rose to become its senior **lieutenant colonel** by 1802, when the regiment was sent to Canada. Prior to that time, Brock had seen action in only one land battle, the action at Egmont-aan-Zee, Netherlands, on 2 October 1799. He and the 49th had also been on board the **ships** of Vice Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson during the battle of Copenhagen on 2 April 1801 but did not go ashore as originally intended.

Brock became a **colonel** in 1805, **brigadier general** in 1809, and **major general** in 1811, serving through those years at the various posts in **LC** and **UC**. Though he grew tired of Canada and wanted to be engaged in campaigns abroad against the French, Brock developed an expert knowledge of the provinces, their peoples, and their issues. He earned a reputation as an effective civil administrator and leader of men. On 14 September 1811, **Sir George Prevost**, the newly arrived governor in chief at **Quebec**, ordered Brock to assume command as president and administrator (the **lieutenant governor**) of the **UC** government and the armed forces.

Brock anticipated that war would break out with the **United States** and took some steps to prepare his **regular** forces for the coming conflict. He organized **flank companies** for the **militia** regiments and saw that they received extra training. He won the tacit support of the native groups, although he distrusted their loyalty and dependability, though he valued the efforts of their chiefs, such as **John Norton** and **Tecumseh**. He tried to convince Prevost that preemptive strikes against the weak American frontier **forts** would strengthen the British position but relented when Prevost insisted that a nonaggressive stance was less likely to arouse the waffling attitude of the American public toward war.

At the outbreak of war, Brock had his forces well deployed and ready for action. He sent orders to Captain **Charles Roberts** at **St. Joseph Island** that implied he should seize the American **Fort Mackinac**, although this contravened Prevost's orders. Roberts's

successful mission on 17 July 1812 came just days after Brigadier General **William Hull** invaded UC along the **Detroit River**. Brock led a force of regulars, militia, and natives to **Fort Amherstburg** in the second week of August and quickly organized an attack on **Detroit**, which fell with barely a shot being fired on 16 August. When news of the victory reached England, the **Prince Regent** made him a **KCB** (news of this did not reach Canada until after his death).

Brock was frustrated when he returned to Niagara and discovered that the **Prevost–Dearborn Armistice** would inhibit his plan to move aggressively against American positions in the **Northwest Territory** while allowing the American army on the **Niagara River** to receive supplies and reinforcements. He concluded that the next invasion attempt would come on this front, which it did on 13 October at the **battle of Queenston Heights**. Brock rode from his headquarters at **Niagara** to determine the strength of the American attack at **Queenston** and was killed about 7:30 A.M. leading a charge to recapture the **redan battery** part way up the **Niagara Escarpment**, which an American detachment had just seized. His second in command, Major General **Roger Sheaffe**, led the British to victory late in the day. Brock's death overshadowed the victory, and he was universally mourned. People believed that had he survived, he would have prevented British failures in the subsequent campaigns of the war.

Brock was buried at **Fort George** on 16 October 1812 and reinterred in the first Brock Monument on Queenston Heights in 1824. This monument was severely damaged by a bomb in 1840 and replaced by the current structure, where Brock was again laid to rest in 1853. The monument stands as a symbol of the admiration Brock commanded during his time in Canada and the place he holds in Canadian history.

BROCKVILLE, UC. Located 50 miles down the **St. Lawrence River** from **Kingston, UC**, Brockville was first settled in 1785 and named Buell's Bay, then renamed Elizabethtown. During 1812, the name was changed to honor Major General **Isaac Brock**, the victor of **Detroit** (16 August 1812). It was unfortified and guarded by parts of the **Leeds County Militia** when Americans attacked the village on 7 February 1813.

BROCKVILLE, UC, RAID ON (7 February 1813). Captain **Benjamin Forsyth** commanded the American **garrison** at **Ogdensburg, New York**, in February 1813 with orders to take no offensive actions, but when a British party crossed from **Brockville** in the first week of February to apprehend deserters, Forsyth concluded a response was needed.

Late on 6 February, Forsyth, at the head of 200 men, including elements of his **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** and **New York Militia**, crossed on the ice of the **St. Lawrence River**, captured the negligent Brockville guard before dawn the next day, and briefly occupied the village. The Americans captured more than 50 of the **Leeds County Militia**, including a number of officers, about 100 **muskets** and **rifles**, and ammunition. They burned a makeshift **barracks** and returned to Ogdensburg having suffered only one man wounded.

BROKE, PHILIP BOWES VERE (1776–1841). Born near Ipswich, England, Broke joined the **RN** in 1792 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1795. He was present at the battle of Cape St. Vincent in February 1797 and was advanced to **commander** in 1799 and **captain** in 1801. Five years later, he took command of HMS **Shannon (1806)** and saw continuous action against the French over the next few years, during which he gained a reputation for training his crew to a high level of proficiency, especially in gunnery. Assigned to the **North America Station** at **Halifax**, Broke was the senior officer in the **squadron** that captured the U.S. Brig **Nautilus**, Lieutenant **William Crane**, on 17 July 1812 and chased the USS **Constitution** that same month off **New Jersey**. On 1 June 1813, off Boston, the *Shannon* captured the USS **Chesapeake**, Captain **James Lawrence**. Broke suffered a severe head wound during the battle that plagued him for the rest of his life. For his victory, he was made a **baronet** in September 1813 and a **KCB** in January 1815. He rose to the rank of **rear admiral** in 1830.

BROKE (RN). See *GROWLER* (1812) (USN).

BROKEN VOYAGE. American merchants (and others from neutral countries) used the broken, or interrupted, voyage to avoid capture at sea by the British under the **Rule of 1756**. They carried goods be-

tween France (or its allies) and their colonies but broke the cruise by stopping at an American port, formally importing the goods, and paying requisite customs before reloading them and exporting them to the desired destination. The British allowed such a “broken voyage,” but since the import/export procedure was expensive and time consuming, American merchants abused the system by not discharging their cargoes fully, if at all, and by being allowed a rebate on their customs fees. British officials considered such practices to represent continuous (rather than broken) voyages and approved the seizure of vessels lacking clear proof of the import/export process and relevant customs fees. The *Essex* decision was a case in point.

BROOKE, SIR ARTHUR (1772–1843). A native of Ireland, Brooke joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in the **44th Regiment of Foot** in 1792. He remained with this **regiment**, rose through the ranks, and saw much action against the French in Europe, the West Indies, and Egypt and during the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814).

Brooke was **breveted** to **colonel** in June 1813 and the next year, after being made a **CB**, went with the 44th to Bermuda under Major General **Robert Ross**. There he was active during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the battle of North Point (12 September). With Ross’s death early on 12 September, Brooke succeeded to command and effectively deployed his force to win the battle of North Point. The sight of the American **fortifications** at **Baltimore**, inflated rumors of their strength, and Cochrane’s request that any attack must be guaranteed of success prompted Brooke and his staff to withdraw to the **fleet** without further fighting.

Brooke was with his regiment during the **New Orleans** actions in **Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

Following the war, Brooke remained in the army, though without active command, being promoted to **major general** in 1819 and **lieutenant general** in 1837.

BROWN BESS. *See* MUSKET.

BROWN, JACOB JENNINGS (1775–1828). Brown was born in **Pennsylvania** and had a varied career as a teacher, surveyor, and

newspaper writer before buying a large tract of land in **New York** at the eastern tip of **Lake Ontario** in 1798. Here he established Brownville and became a successful farmer, earning the nickname of “Smuggler Brown” during the term of “**Jefferson’s Embargo**.”

Brown was an officer in the **New York Militia**, rising to **brigadier general** in 1811. The **St. Lawrence River** area of New York was his post when the war started, and he commanded at **Ogdensburg**, New York, on 4 October 1812, when American guns turned back a British attack. The next spring he commanded the **militia** during the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May), for which success he was **commissioned** in the **U.S. Army** as a brigadier general the following July. He was then given command of the Second Brigade during Major General **James Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) and was the senior officer at the **skirmish at French Creek** (1–2 November), fending off an attack by a detachment of Commodore **Sir James Yeo’s squadron**. His **brigade** was landed in **UC** on 8 November for the purpose of clearing the route of British defenders, and he was in command on 10 November at the **skirmish at Hoople’s Creek**; he was not present at the **battle of Crysler’s Farm** (11 November).

Brown led his men to the camp that Wilkinson erected at **French Mills, New York**, but in January, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered him to march 2,000 men and some artillery to Sackets. He had been promoted to **major general** on 24 January, and when he arrived at Sackets on 16 February, he learned he also commanded the Left Division of the U.S. Army in the Ninth **Military District**. It was at the head of that force that he conducted his **campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814).

For his many efforts, Brown was voted a gold medal by the **U.S. Congress**. He remained in the army and from 1815 was the senior commanding officer until his death.

BROWN’S CAMPAIGN ON THE NIAGARA RIVER (July–October 1814). In mid-February 1814, Major General **Jacob Brown** became the commander of the Left Division of the **U.S. Army** in the Ninth **Military District**. Secretary of War **John Armstrong** thought Brown should attack **Kingston, UC**, but his convoluted style of giving orders and an early thaw led Brown to head for the **Niagara**



Jacob Brown, 1775–1828. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C100390

Frontier with a **brigade** of troops early in April to recapture **Fort Niagara**, another of Armstrong's options. From the Niagara, Brown suggested an invasion of **UC** near the **Grand River** in coordination with the **USN squadron** at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, and a military force from **Detroit**. They would combine for an attack on **Burlington Heights** with support from Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** squadron.

President **James Madison's** cabinet decided in June to commit the Erie and Detroit forces for what became Captain **Arthur Sinclair's** **campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814). A firm date could not be set as to when Chauncey's squadron would be ready to cooperate with Brown, so his grand scheme was dropped, and Armstrong recommended he capture **Fort Erie** and occupy the upper **Niagara River** "to give immediate occupation to your troops and to prevent their blood from stagnating." This directive led to Brown's campaign on the Niagara River.

Brown arrived at Buffalo to prepare for the summer campaign, and by early July his **division** consisted of Brigadier General **Winfield Scott's** First Brigade (**Ninth, Eleventh, Twenty-second, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley's** Second Brigade (**Twenty-first**, with parts of the **Seventeenth** and **Nineteenth** joined to it, and **Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), **New York State Militia** Brigadier General **Peter Porter's** Third Brigade (eventually composed of about 1,700 men, including **Pennsylvania Militia**, **New York Militia**, the **Canadian Volunteers**, and warriors from the **Oneida, Onondaga, Stockbridge, Tuscarora, and Seneca** nations, the latter including men from the **Alleghany, Cattaraugus, and Tonawanda** tribes), and four **companies** of the **Corps of Artillery** under Major Jacob Hindman and a troop from the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**. In all, there were about 5,000 men by the time Porter's brigade filled up. Most of the **regulars** had undergone intensive and effective training by Scott and were properly equipped and clothed.

Brown began his campaign with the **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July). The next morning, he sent Scott northward with his brigade, some **dragoons**, and **artillery**, but a British rear guard of three **infantry companies**, some dragoons, and artillery under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Pearson, skirmished with him through 4 July, slowing his

advance, and it took until nearly sunset for him to cover the 15 miles to **Chippawa, UC**. His troops exhausted and the sun setting, Scott retreated about one mile south to encamp for the night. Brown arrived with the Second Brigade, the rest of the artillery, and his supply train around midnight. Skirmishing with British patrols began at dawn the next morning and resulted in troop movements that led to the significant American victory over the British Right Division under Major General **Phineas Riall** at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July). The wording of Brown's official report on the action slighted certain officers and added to the friction already existing between Brown and his brigade commanders. Except for the Stockbridge warriors, the native allies left the division over the next few weeks.

Brown began to bridge the **Chippawa Creek** early on 8 July, prompting Riall to withdraw his forces to **Fort George**. On 10 July, Brown advanced to **Queenston Heights**, from where he hoped he would see Chauncey's squadron waiting offshore. He sent out patrols, some of which plundered private property and quickly provoked aggressive responses from the locals until skirmishing was nearly continuous and led to American retaliation on 18 July with the **burning of St. Davids** by a **battalion** of New York Militia under Lieutenant Colonel Isaac Stone. Meanwhile, on 13 July, Riall withdrew a large part of his force to Twenty Mile Creek, and seven days later Brown moved his force down to Fort George. But after two days of demonstrations and weak bombardment, he retreated to **Queens-ton** and then back to Chippawa on 24 July.

Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** reached **York** from **Kingston** on 22 July and began formulating plans for offensives on the Niagara, which included a push by Riall against the Americans at Queenston. Drummond landed at **Niagara** early on 25 July and had troops in motion on both sides of the Niagara River, which, along with reinforcements called in from **Twelve Mile Creek**, he sent to Lundy's Lane, a hillside roadway about a mile west of the falls of Niagara. Later that day, the Left and Right Divisions met to fight the bloody **battle of Lundy's Lane**. The Americans held the ground when the fighting stopped, but both forces withdrew thereafter. Brown suffered two wounds, and Scott, having also been badly wounded, passed command to Ripley, ordering him to retire. The next day, Ripley did not execute an order from Brown to resume the

battle, producing an acrimonious dispute between the two men; other officers were also slighted by the wording of Brown's official report.

Ripley had Chippawa's **barracks**, bridge, and **fortifications** destroyed on 26 July and marched the remaining army (now numbering just over 2,100 men fit for duty) to Fort Erie. Ripley wanted to retreat to New York, but his officers and Brown, recovering at Buffalo, rejected the idea. On reaching Fort Erie on 27 July, the Americans began an around-the-clock effort to extend and strengthen the fort, preparing for a British attack. On 3 August, a British detachment intent on attacking **Black Rock** and Buffalo was sharply repelled by American regulars in the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek**. Chauncey's squadron appeared off Niagara on 4 August, too late to help other than restrict Drummond's supply line.

Brigadier General **Edmund Gaines** arrived and, being senior to Ripley, took command of the army on 5 August, much to Brown's relief. That same day, Drummond's Right Division began preparations for the **siege of Fort Erie**, and minor skirmishing started that would occur nearly every day for weeks on end. The British siege guns opened up on 13 August, but they had been placed too far from the fort to do much damage and were open to attack by USN vessels covering the fort. On 12–13 August, an **RN** detachment under Commander **Alexander Dobbs** succeeded in the **capture of the U.S. Schooners Ohio and Somers**. Early on 15 August, Drummond deployed a large force in the **assault on Fort Erie** and suffered defeat and heavy casualties.

During August and September, the Left Division was reinforced with the arrival of elements of detachments from regular **units** already present (and up to 2,000 New York Militia), many of them sent from western Lake Erie posts and by the **First** and **Fourth U.S. Regiments of Rifles**. A part of the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** had joined just prior to the battle of Lundy's Lane.

Brown resumed command in the first week of September, and the siege ground on through constant skirmishing and worsening weather until Drummond decided to relieve his exhausted and inadequately supplied army by lifting the siege on 17 September. That day, Brown launched the **Fort Erie sortie** against the British batteries, resulting in the last round of vicious fighting and over 1,000 casualties and captives.

The British pulled back to Chippawa, and on 10 October, Major General **George Izard** arrived with the 4,300-man Right Division of the Ninth Military District from **Plattsburgh** by way of **Sackets Harbor** (Brigadier General **Daniel Bissell**'s First Brigade: **Fifth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; Brigadier General Thomas Smith's Brigade: **Fourth, Tenth, Twelfth, and Seventeenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; and artillery and light dragoons). Izard crossed into Canada and, being senior to Brown, took command. Izard made a demonstration in front of the Chippawa position on 15 October and then withdrew. He sent Brigadier General Daniel Bissell on the **raid at Cook's Mills** (19 October). The next week, he approved Brown's request to return to Sackets Harbor and began the retreat from UC. Brigadier General **William Winder** arrived and marched the remains of Brown's Left Division back to Sackets. On 5 November, when the last of the fortifications at Fort Erie had been destroyed, the Americans left Canada for good, and the campaign ended.

BROWNSTOWN, MICHIGAN, SKIRMISH AT (5 August 1812).

The **Wyandot** village of Brownstown, **Michigan**, was located about 20 miles south of **Detroit** and five miles west of **Fort Amherstburg** at modern-day Gibraltar, Michigan. Near the village, a small force under Captain **Adam Muir**, **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, and 25 warriors under **Tecumseh** ambushed 200 **Ohio Militia** commanded by Major **Thomas Van Horne** carrying mail to **Frenchtown** early on 5 August and expecting to escort a supply train to Detroit. The British force suffered a few casualties but killed about 20 Americans, wounded a dozen, and captured dispatches by Brigadier General **William Hull** that revealed his tenuous circumstances. Van Horne's men retreated to Detroit, while some of their wounded were murdered by the natives and the bodies of the dead staked along the road as further intimidation.

BRUYERES, RALPH HENRY (ca. 1765–1814). Bruyeres was the son of a **British army** officer serving at **Montreal**. After training in the **Royal Military Academy**, he became a second **lieutenant** in the **Corps of Royal Engineers**. He had a period of war service in Europe and returned to Canada in 1800.

In 1802, Bruyeres made a thorough inspection of all military posts in UC and reported their crumbling state, a process he repeated several times before the war, providing some of the most detailed descriptions of the various **fortifications** available. He became the commanding engineer in Canada in 1806 and was promoted to **lieutenant colonel**. Funds were always lacking to make necessary repairs, although Bruyeres was able to complete fortifications at **Quebec**.

During the war, Bruyeres continued to report on the state of the posts, most of his time being spent in UC, where he was advanced to the local rank of **colonel** in 1813. Late that year, he became ill at Montreal and had not recovered when he went to inspect the state of **Fort Niagara** after its capture (18–19 December). Too sick to continue there, Bruyeres returned to Quebec, where he succumbed.

BUCK, THOMAS (ca. 1780–1841). Buck entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the **8th Regiment of Foot** in 1798. He had risen to the rank of **major** by 1811 and was with his **regiment** throughout the war. His only participation in action appears to have been as the commander during the **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July 1814), when he surrendered its **garrison** without bloodshed. After returning from captivity in 1815, he remained in the army and rose to **lieutenant colonel** by **brevet** before his death.

BUCKSHOT. Lead shot, measuring .24 to .31 inches in diameter and known as buckshot, was sometimes added to a **musket cartridge**, particularly by American forces.

BUFFALO, NEW YORK. This village was located near Buffalo Creek at the confluence of **Lake Erie** and the **Niagara River**, opposite **Fort Erie, UC**. Village lots were laid out starting in 1801 and first sold in 1803. In 1812, it had a population of about 400 residing in up to 100 homes. It was destroyed by fire during the British **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December 1813).

BULGER, ANDREW H. (1789–1858). A native of **Newfoundland**, Bulger entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in what became the

Royal Newfoundland Fencibles in the fall of 1804 and rose to **lieutenant** before the year was out.

In 1812, Bulger was with his **regiment** in **UC** and was present at the **capture of Detroit** (14 August). He served with the **PM** on **Lake Ontario** and was at the **battles of Fort George** (27 May 1813), **Stoney Creek** (6 June) and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November). In the spring of 1814, he was the **adjutant** to Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall**, who led reinforcements to **Michilimackinac**, and was present at the failed American **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August). He commanded the detachment sent with Lieutenant **Miller Worsley, RN**, to **capture the U.S. Schooners Tigress and Scorpion** (3 and 6 September 1813). With the local rank of **captain**, Bulger then took command of **Fort McKay**, where he stayed until abandoning it (having set it aflame) in May 1815.

Bulger wrote *An Autobiographical Sketch* of his war service. It was not until 1820 that he was able to get his captaincy confirmed. He was a civil officer at the Red River settlement in Manitoba in the 1820s and spent the last 20 years of his life in another civil post in **Montreal**.

BURGOYNE, JOHN FOX (1782–1871). This officer was the illegitimate son of Major General John Burgoyne, who surrendered a British army to the Americans at Saratoga, **New York**, in 1777. He entered the **Royal Military Academy** in 1796 and joined the **Corps of Royal Engineers** as a second **lieutenant** in 1798. After active service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), where he was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** by **brevet**, Burgoyne joined Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) as senior engineer.

He was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December 1814), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815). The swampy conditions, inclement weather, shortage of building materials, and lack of proper **siege** equipment greatly hampered the projects conducted by Burgoyne and his men and contributed to the failure of the campaign. After the withdrawal of the force from **New Orleans**, Burgoyne was present during the bloodless **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

Burgoyne continued in the army after the war and eventually rose to the rank of **field marshal** in 1868. He was knighted three times, the final honor being the **GCB**.

BURLINGTON BAY. This is the stretch of water at the western tip of **Lake Ontario**, lying outside of the neck of land that encloses modern-day Hamilton Harbor.

BURLINGTON HEIGHTS, UC. Halfway between **Niagara** and **York** on the overland route around the western end of **Lake Ontario**, this lofty peninsula stood between modern-day Hamilton Harbor and a large pond known as Coote's Paradise in what is now Hamilton, Ontario. The British camped there after the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), and it remained a post for the balance of the war.

“BURLINGTON RACES” (28 September 1813). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** was about 10 miles south-southeast of **York** at dawn on 28 September 1813, when Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** was seen in the northwest lying close to the **UC** shore. The two **commodores** maneuvered toward each other until just after 12:00 P.M., when Yeo led his line out of the south to meet Chauncey's line coming from the north. A gale was rising out of the northeast.

At 1:15, Chauncey turned to bring his line onto a parallel course with Yeo's and opened fire. The **long guns** of the **General Pike** had almost instant effect as Yeo's **Wolfe** lost its main and mizzen topmasts overboard and wallowed briefly out of control. Chauncey might have closed on Yeo and boarded him, but Commander **William Mulcaster** skillfully sailed his **Royal George** to intercept and engage the **Pike**. This gave Yeo time to recover, and he was soon sailing away downwind. The rest of his squadron followed, and Chauncey's warships took up the chase. The exchange of fire continued with the **Pike** being briefly set back when one of its guns burst, causing considerable damage and casualties.

Around the shore at the western end of **Lake Ontario**, observers watched the pursuit, which later became known as the “Burlington Races” since the British course lay straight for an anchorage on the north shore of **Burlington Bay**. Yeo's experienced **RN** crews were

able to cope with their emergency and brought their vessels safely to anchor about mid-afternoon.

Chauncey had restrained his commanders from acting independently and engaging individual British vessels. When he saw Yeo make his anchorage, he ordered his line to cease the pursuit and haul off, a decision that was widely criticized. He reasoned, however, that his sluggish **schooners** would be never be able to get out of Burlington Bay under the current weather conditions, a decision that proved wise, as his squadron struggled desperately through the next day as it tried to make way to the east. In addition, Chauncey had received instructions to protect the movement of the army under Major General **James Wilkinson** from **Fort Niagara** to **Sackets Harbor**; he saw this as a key reason to protect his squadron rather than chance an uncertain engagement on a lee shore against an anchored enemy.

The British suffered five dead and 13 wounded, while Chauncey counted 27 casualties. The *Wolfe* was repaired and sailed on 2 October.

A popular legend claims that Yeo used a storm surge to sail his squadron over the neck of land that encloses modern-day Hamilton Harbor, commonly misidentified as Burlington Bay and known at that time as Little Lake. The legend is wrong. **Ships'** logs and other period documents identify Yeo's anchorage and show that the channel that existed between Burlington Bay and Little Lake was too shallow, narrow, and winding to allow passage of even one of Yeo's schooners under calm conditions.

BURLINGTON, VERMONT. This town, located on the eastern shore of **Lake Champlain** about 20 miles southeast of **Plattsburgh, New York**, and about 38 miles south of the Canadian border, was a commercial center in 1812 and had a population of about 2,000. During the war, the **U.S. Army** developed a 10-acre cantonment there for the housing and training of troops.

BURN, JAMES (?–1831). Burn lived in **South Carolina** when he obtained a **commission** in 1798 as a **captain** in the early U.S. Light Dragoons, from which he was honorably discharged the next year.

In April 1812, he reentered the **U.S. Army** as **colonel** of the **Second Regiment of Light Dragoons** and spent the rest of that year

assembling, training, and outfitting his **regiment**. Burn arrived at **Fort Niagara** in May 1813 with a mounted **squadron** and during the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813) was to cross the **Niagara River** early enough to cut off the British retreat; he was late, however, and failed. The squadron was with Brigadier General **John Chandler** at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813) and charged the British (and their own **Sixteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**). During the battle, command of the American force devolved on Burn. A portion of one of his **troops** was captured at the **battle of Beaver Dams** (26 June 1813).

Burn spent the summer of 1813 with two squadrons of his regiment at Utica and then shadowed the expedition under Major General **James Wilkinson** as it proceeded down the **St. Lawrence River** in October and November. Burn spent the winter near **Sackets Harbor**. He transferred into the **Regiment of Light Dragoons** in May 1814 but saw no more action in the war and was honorably discharged in 1815.

BURROWS, WILLIAM W. (1785–1813). Burrows was born in Kensington, **Pennsylvania**, and entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1799, seeing action in the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807 and given command of the U.S. Brig *Enterprise* in August 1813. Cruising off the New England coast on 5 September 1813, Burrows engaged and captured HM Sloop *Boxer*, Commander **Samuel Blyth**, who suffered a mortal wound. Burrows received a wound to his torso early in the action that proved fatal shortly after the British surrendered. He was buried along with Blyth at Portland, **Maine**. In January 1814, the **U.S. Congress** voted to present Burrows's family with a gold medal in honor of his victory and heroic sacrifice.

BYRON, RICHARD (1769–1837). The record of Byron's career begins with his promotion to **lieutenant** in 1793 and shows he was a **commander** in 1798 and **captain** in 1802. He was **commissioned** in HMS *Belvidera* in 1810, and when the war started, his **ship** was posted to the **North America Station**. On 23 July 1812, Byron skillfully eluded an American **squadron** under Captain **John Rodgers** southwest of Massachusetts. On 25 December 1813, the *Belvidera*

chased and captured the U.S. Schooner **Vixen** (1813), Lieutenant **George C. Read**, off Delaware.

Byron was made a **CB** in 1815, and he advanced to **rear admiral** in January 1837.

– C –

CADORE LETTER (5 August 1810). The Duke of Cadore, the French minister to the **United States** in Paris, presented a letter to **John Armstrong**, the U.S. minister to France, on 5 August 1810 indicating that **Napoleon**, having heard of **Macon's Bill No. 2**, intended to withdraw the **Berlin** and **Milan Decrees** on 1 November 1810 if the U.S. government reimposed nonintercourse with Britain. Although the letter was not an official decree and President **James Madison** knew of the **Rambouillet Decree** (23 March 1810) and the **Trianon Tariff** (5 August 1810), he still proclaimed on 2 November 1810 that the **United States** would agree with Napoleon's terms. On 2 March 1811, the **Nonintercourse Act** of March 1809, with revisions, was invoked against Britain. The French made no significant change to their trade policies, and the content of the Cadore letter was shown to have been a ruse.

CALDWELL'S RANGERS (UC Militia). William Caldwell Sr. was a captain in Butler's Rangers, a renown group of British Loyalists who fought during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). After the war, he moved to Canada and became an influential merchant on the **Detroit River**. In the autumn of 1812, then-Colonel **Henry Procter** proposed the formation of a **company** of **rangers** to work in coordination with the allied natives. Permission was granted early in 1813, and Caldwell was given command; the group was known as Caldwell's, or the Western, Rangers. He and his sons were the officers of this small band, which was present during Procter's retreat from **Amherstburg** and the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813). In 1814, they were at the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March) and the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

CALEDONIA (USN). The **PM** armed this **merchantman** in 1812 but lost it during the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October

1812) at **Fort Erie, UC**. It was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** in the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813) and in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the Upper Lakes** (July–September 1814). It was sold by the **USN** in 1815.

Type: 3-gun **brig**. Launch: 1807, **Amherstburg, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) two 24-pdr lg, one 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 86 tons. Crew: 57.

CALEDONIA AND DETROIT, CAPTURE OF THE (9 October 1812). On 8 October 1812, the **PM Brigs** *Caledonia* and *Detroit* (1812), with detachments of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles** on board, arrived at **Fort Erie, UC**. Watching from **Buffalo**, Lieutenant **Jesse Elliott** conceived the idea of seizing them and, with the support of Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth (U.S. Army)** and Major General **Amos Hall (New York Militia)**, filled two boats with about 100 men, comprising **USN** personnel, members of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** (under Captain **Nathan Towson**), and some **New York Militia**, including **Cyrenius Chapin**. Under cover of darkness, the Americans crossed the **Niagara River** to Fort Erie, where they stormed aboard the **brigs** and took them. They managed to sail the *Caledonia* to safety at the dockyard at **Black Rock**, but the *Detroit* ran aground at the southern tip of nearby Squaw Island. The British sent a boat of **regulars** (the **1/49th Regiment of Foot**) to recapture the brig, but the Americans fought them off and set the *Detroit* on fire.

Elliott and Towson reported three men killed and 14 wounded and 59 prisoners. The British had at least one killed and six wounded. The *Caledonia* was also loaded with a valuable cargo of furs belonging to the **South West Fur Company**.

CAMPBELL, JOHN B. (?–1814). A native of Virginia, Campbell joined the **U.S. Army** with a **commission** as **lieutenant colonel** in the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in March 1812. He led a detachment of **regulars** and **militia** to attack native villages south of **Fort Wayne, Indiana**, in December 1812 and fought off a force of mainly **Miami** warriors at the **battle of the Mississinewa River** on 17–18 December, suffering heavy losses. Nevertheless, he was promoted to **colonel** by **brevet** that month.

Following the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), Campbell commanded the troops left to guard the captured British vessels at Put-in-Bay. In April 1814, he transferred into the **Eleventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** as its colonel and led the **raid at Port Dover, UC**, on 14–16 May 1814; he was widely criticized for his destruction of private property. He received a mortal wound at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July 1814), dying on 28 August.

CANADIAN CHASSEURS. *See* INDEPENDENT COMPANIES OF FOREIGNERS; SELECT EMBODIED MILITIA OF LC.

CANADIAN FENCIBLES (British army). This **regiment** was raised in 1803 in **LC** and stationed there. At the outset of the war, they were at posts between **Montreal** and the **Richelieu River** and did not see action until the summer of 1813.

Elements of the regiment were present at such actions as the following: 1813, “**Murray’s Raid**” (29 July–4 August), **Chateauguay** (26 October), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February) and **Lacolle Mill** (30 March).

Among its notable officers during the war were Richard Ferguson and Guillaume de Lorimier.

CANADIAN LIGHT DRAGOONS. This **unit** was authorized in a general order by **Sir George Prevost** on 29 April 1813 to consist of a **troop** of horse raised in the district of **Montreal**. Its **captain** was Thomas Coleman.

Elements of the dragoons participated in the **skirmish at McCrea’s Farm** (15 December 1813).

CANADIAN VOLTIGEURS. Also known as the Provincial Corps of Light Infantry, this **unit** was raised in **LC** and paid by that province’s government. It was a unit of **regulars** but was not part of the **British army**. Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** ordered its formation in April 1812, making Major **Charles de Salaberry** its commander. Two **companies** of the **Frontier Light Infantry** joined with the Voltigeurs in August 1813.

Actions in which elements of the Voltigeurs participated included the following: 1813, **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), the **blockade of**

Fort George (July–October), **Odelltown** (20 September), **Chateauguay** (26 October), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and **Plattsburgh** (11 September).

CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS (American). This was a **unit** of Canadian turncoats who served with the American forces. It began formally on 10 July 1813, when Major General **Henry Dearborn** gave **Joseph Willcocks**, a resident of the town of **Niagara**, permission to raise a “Corps of Volunteers” made up of Canadians sympathetic to the American cause. Within a week, Major Willcocks had 52 officers and men who spent the summer acting as scouts for the Americans, informing on the activities of the locals and arresting dozens of them. The **company’s** strength grew and earned the hatred of loyal Canadians; **William Merritt** and others worked hard to corral Willcocks but could not catch up with him. The company is reputed to have set fire to Niagara on 10 December by order of Brigadier General **George McClure**.

Willcocks was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** in the **U.S. Army** in January 1814 while two other former members of the **UC** legislature were given similar **commissions**: Major Benajah Mallory and Captain Abraham Markle. As part of Brigadier General **Peter Porter’s** brigade, the Volunteers served effectively through the rest of the war, commanded by Mallory after Willcocks was killed in a skirmish in September 1814. The corps was disbanded in 1815.

Elements of the unit were present at various actions, including the following: 1813, the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Dover** (14–15 May), Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July), and the **siege of Fort Erie** (September–August).

CANADIAN VOLUNTEERS (British). After the force under Captain **Charles Roberts** captured **Fort Mackinac** (17 July 1812), Roberts detained 23 men from the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery** under **Lieutenant Porter Hanks** on the grounds that three were British de-

serters and the rest were British subjects (French Canadian). He formed most of them into a small company of “volunteers” as a means of increasing the strength of his military force, and they became known as the Canadian Volunteers. They performed regular **garrison** duty, and a few of them were part of Lieutenant Colonel **William McKay**’s force that captured **Fort Shelby, Prairie du Chien**, on 20 July 1814.

CANISTER. This type of projectile, fired by **ordnance**, consisted of a tin can filled with small lead bullets and was commonly referred to as case shot.

CANNON. *See* ARTILLERY.

CAPE BRETON ISLAND. Cape Breton Island was separated from **Nova Scotia** as a colony from 1784 to 1820. During the war, the **lieutenant governors** were Major General Nicholas Nepean (1812) and Hugh Swayne (1813–1814). Like the other provinces, Cape Breton Island had a **militia**, but it did not see any action during the war.

CAPTAIN. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY; RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

CAPTAIN’S SERVANT. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

CARBINE. This weapon resembled a **musket** except it was shorter and lighter. Intended for use by the **cavalry**, the British Paget carbine, for example, measured 31.5 inches in overall length with a .66 caliber. Carbines were supposed to have been issued to the **artillery** and **dragoons** of the **U.S. Army**, but this does not appear to have happened.

CARCASS. Like a **shell**, a carcass was a hollow iron sphere, some weighing up to 190 pounds, fired from a **mortar**. Unlike a shell, it did not explode. It was filled with combustibles that caught fire during its launch and burned through three large holes in the shell. After

blazing a trail of light along its trajectory, the carcass was intended to start fires on landing.

CARDEN, JOHN SURMAN (1771–1858). Carden began his naval career as a **captain's servant** in 1788, rising to **midshipman** in 1790 and **lieutenant** in 1794. He was advanced to **commander** in 1798 for the part he played in the capture of the French **frigate** *l'Immortalité*. He rose to post rank in 1806 and after several commands moved into HMS *Macedonian* in April 1811. This **frigate** met with the USS *United States*, Commodore **Stephen Decatur**, on 25 October 1812, 500 miles west of the Canary Islands, and was captured after a severe battle. Carden and his crew were honorably acquitted for the loss of the **ship** in the subsequent **court-martial**, and he received praise from the British Parliament and even the freedom of several towns. Nevertheless, Carden never held another command afloat, though he remained in the navy and rose to the rank of **rear admiral** in 1840.

CARLETON ISLAND. This 1,800-acre island lies in the south channel of the upper **St. Lawrence River** adjacent to **Wolfe Island** and about 10 miles east of **Kingston, UC**. Although the **Jay Treaty** of 1794 had ceded the island to the **United States**, it was occupied by a **sergeant** and three **privates** of the **10th Royal Veteran Battalion** at the outbreak of war. On 26 June 1812, a private American citizen named Abner Hubbard, with two other men and a boy, surprised the British soldiers, sent them to **Sackets Harbor** as the first **prisoners of war**, and claimed the island for the United States.

CAROLINA (USN). Built privately and purchased by the **USN**, this **schooner** was commissioned to Master Commandant **John Henley** in 1813. At **New Orleans** in 1814, Henley commanded the *Carolina* during the **battle at Villeré's Plantation** (23 December). The British destroyed it on 27 December 1814.

Type: 14-gun schooner. Launch: 1812, Charlestown, **South Carolina**. Armament (1814): one 12-pdr lg, 12 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 89' 6" bp × 24' 4" × 11' 4" dh, 230 tons. Crew: 100.

CARRONADE. This type of **artillery** had a short barrel with a smooth bore, its caliber being determined by the weight of shot it fired. Car-

ronades (crde) were developed in the 1770s and employed on warships because they were lighter in construction than **long guns** (lg), required smaller gun crews and smaller charges than long guns, and could fire large-caliber projectiles, although their effective range was limited to about 500 yards. Carronades also lacked the pinions by which long guns were fastened to their carriages. Instead, a lug underneath the barrel was secured to the carriage. A hybrid of the two types of guns was the **gunnade**. Carronades were sometimes used in **batteries** on land.

CARTEL. This was a public or private vessel of any type granted immunity to carry **prisoners of war**, private citizens, or government representatives to an enemy port. Such a vessel might identify itself by flying a white flag and the **standard** of each nation. Some merchants petitioned the government to serve as cartels since **blockades** and the dangers of capture by **privateers**, **letters of marque**, and warships made normal shipping highly risky. Cartels were sometimes termed **flags of truce**.

CARTRIDGE. Prepared cartridges were used in **muskets** and **rifles** instead of loose powder and **ball**. The cartridge consisted of a greased paper tube, its ends twisted shut, holding six or eight drams of black powder and the ball and, occasionally, **buckshot**. **Artillery** cartridges were made of paper or fabric and, for a typical **field gun**, contained one-third the weight of the projectile in black powder; a **carronade** cartridge held, on average, one-eighth the weight of the projectile in black powder. “Fixed ammunition” in artillery had the projectile contained in the cartridge separated from the powder by a wooden disk (the “sabot” or “shoe”).

CARTRIDGE BOX. This was a box worn on the soldier’s right hip and suspended by a belt over his left shoulder in which were kept **cartridges** for his **musket**.

CASE SHOT. *See* CANISTER.

CASS, LEWIS (1782–1866). A lawyer by training, Cass was a member of the **Ohio** legislature before 1812 and had risen to the rank of

brigadier general in the **Ohio Militia**. He volunteered his services in the spring of 1812 and was elected **colonel** of the Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which participated in Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). In one skirmish, Cass's men captured a bridge on the Canard River near **Fort Amherstburg, UC**. Hull surrendered to the British on 16 August 1812 while Cass was on his way to **Frenchtown** for supplies. **Duncan McArthur, James Findlay**, and he were harsh critics of Hull.

Cass entered the **U.S. Army** as a **colonel** of the **Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in February 1813 and became a **brigadier general** the next month in the Eighth **Military District**. He marched to join Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813) with his **brigade**, which consisted of the **Twenty-sixth**, **Twenty-seventh**, and **Twenty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**. Transported in Captain **Oliver Perry's squadron**, they were part of Harrison's force that invaded UC near **Amherstburg** in September 1813. While most of his brigade occupied **Sandwich**, Cass, with about 120 of the **Twenty-seventh**, proceeded with Harrison and was present at the **battle of Moraviantown** on 5 October. On 14 October, he was appointed governor of **Michigan Territory** and administrator of southwestern UC.

Following the war, he was actively involved in politics, running unsuccessfully for the presidency against **Zachary Taylor** in 1848.

CASTINE, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

CASTLEREIGH, ROBERT STEWART, LORD (1769–1822). Born in Ireland, Stewart was well educated and became deeply involved in Irish politics and affairs in his early 20s. He became Lord Castlereigh in 1796, when he father was made an earl.

The turn of the century brought Castlereigh's involvement in the British Parliament, where his talents earned him appointment to key government posts. In 1812, he became the foreign secretary and undertook the extremely complex and demanding negotiations necessary to maintain the alliances that led to the defeat of **Napoleon** in 1814. These affairs continued to dominate his time thereafter, and he

had little connection to the matters surrounding the war with the **United States**. Nevertheless, he closely directed Britain's peace commissioners in the development of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814).

Castlereigh continued his deep involvement in Britain's affairs, earning many honors, but a gradually worsening "melancholy" (probably manic depression) drove him to commit suicide by slitting his throat.

CATECAHASS. *See* BLACK HOOF.

CATTARAUGUS. This aboriginal group was part of the **Seneca** nation of the **New York Six Nations**.

CAUGHNAWAGA. *See* KAHNAWAKE.

CAVALIER. This is a position within a **fortification** that is raised 10 or 12 feet higher than the surrounding structure, such as the cavalier in the main **battery** of **Fort Tompkins**.

CAVALRY. The cavalry were mounted soldiers. During the war, there were mounted **infantry** who dismounted for battle, especially among the volunteer militia units of such states as **Kentucky** and **Ohio**. The Americans and British both had **regular** and militia units of **dragoons**, used for scouting, communications, and pursuit of an enemy. Neither side had "heavy" cavalry similar to the units that served on Napoleonic battlefields.

CAYUGA. *See* GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SIX NATIONS.

CB (COMPANION OF THE BATH). *See* KNIGHTHOOD.

CEDAR POINT, MARYLAND, SKIRMISH OFF (1 June 1814).

This point of land overlooks **Chesapeake Bay** at the southern lip of the **Patuxent River** mouth. On 31 May, Captain **Joshua Barney's** **flotilla** anchored near here and set out the next morning to investigate

British operations under Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** at **Tangier Island** about 40 miles to the southeast.

Cockburn had sent Captain **Robert Barrie** in search of Barney that morning (1 June), his force consisting of HM Schooner *St. Lawrence* (1813), a second small **schooner**, and seven boats. About 5:00 A.M., Barrie spotted strange sails to the north and gave chase; four of his boats had not yet joined him. When he realized that there were 25 American vessels approaching him, some of them being **merchantsmen** under the convoy of the heavily armed **barges** of Barney's flotilla, Barrie fled back toward the other boats and his **ship**, the 74-gun *Dragon*, which was anchored off the **Potomac River**, about 20 miles south of the Patuxent.

At 1:00 P.M., with Barney closing on him, Barrie had joined his other boats and saw the *Dragon* making sail. The wind shifted to the south, giving the British the advantage, and they moved to cut the Americans off from the Potomac. Now Barney reversed direction and fled from the British back toward the Patuxent. The tide was ebbing, causing some of the American craft to lag behind. Barney went to their rescue in the **sloop-rigged Scorpion** (1812) and signaled the others to help. The *Dragon* anchored eight miles away from the action, so the British boats and schooners, including a **rocket boat**, attempted to separate the American vessels; they captured and burned a merchant schooner.

Many shots were exchanged at long range, but neither commander reported casualties. At the end of the day, Barney had retreated three miles up the Patuxent with the British **blockading** its mouth.

CHAMBERS REPEATING FIREARMS. Joseph G. Chambers, an inventor from Philadelphia, began in 1813 to show his repeating firearms (**pistols, muskets, and swivels**) to officers in the **U.S. Army** and **USN**. Each swivel consisted of a cluster of seven barrels and was fired using the customary **flintlock** system. The lock was mounted midway up the barrel, however. Twenty-five specially prepared **cartridges** were loaded, end to end, into each barrel and when ignited by the flash they fired in succession. Numerous trials showed that the swivel could effectively discharge 175 rounds in about 30 seconds. Fouling of the barrel and reloading delayed subsequent use. Nevertheless, documents show that officers were impressed with the

weapon. Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** had 15 swivels delivered to **Sackets Harbor**, where they are known to have been fitted into the **tops** of the USS *Superior* and USS *Mohawk* but never fired in battle.

CHAMPLAIN, LAKE. Lake Champlain stretches for just over 100 miles in the Champlain valley on the northern portion of the border between **New York** and **Vermont**. It is about 95 feet above sea level and is only 12 miles across at its widest point. It drains into the **St. Lawrence River** at Sorel, Quebec, via the **Richelieu River**.

CHAMPLAIN, LAKE, BATTLE OF. *See* PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, BATTLE OF (11 September 1814).

CHAMPLAIN, NEW YORK. This village is located about one mile south of the **LC** border and five miles up the Great Chazy River, which empties into **Lake Champlain**.

CHAMPLIN, STEPHEN (1789–1870). Born in **Rhode Island**, Champlin entered the **USN** as a **sailing master** in May 1812 and served in Master Commandant **Oliver Perry**'s **gunboat** flotilla at Newport. He went with Perry to the lakes, and during the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), he commanded the U.S. Schooner *Scorpion* (1813), which kept its position close to Perry's flagship, the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence*, supporting its hard fight with the British; Champlin received a severe leg wound in the battle.

In 1814, Champlin commanded the U.S. Schooner *Tigress* during Captain **Arthur Sinclair**'s **campaign on the upper lakes** and was present at the failed **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August) and the **destruction of the Nancy** (14 August) at the **Nottawasaga River**. Three weeks later, a detachment of seamen and soldiers under Lieutenant **Miller Worsley** captured the *Tigress* (3 September) near **St. Joseph Island**, during which fight Champlin was again wounded. A **court-martial** later absolved him of blame for the loss of his vessel.

Champlin rose to **lieutenant** in December 1814, but his wounds appear to have kept him from an active career afloat. He did, however, reach the rank of **commodore** on the reserved list in 1867.

CHANDLER, JOHN (1762–1841). Chandler was born in **New Hampshire** and fought as a patriot in the **American War of Inde-**

pendence (1775–1783). He later settled in **Maine**, where he was a farmer, a miller, and a tavern owner and held several civil offices before becoming a state senator in **Massachusetts** in 1803.

A long-time **militia** officer, Chandler entered the **U.S. Army** as a **brigadier general** in July 1812. He spent most of the rest of the year at **Greenbush, New York**, with Major General **Henry Dearborn**. The next spring found him at **Plattsburgh, New York**, and then **Sackets Harbor**, from where he and a large force were carried in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** to **Fort Niagara** late in May. Chandler commanded the third **brigade**, the reserve, during the **battle of Fort George** (27 May) but saw no action. At the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June), Chandler was captured.

Chandler was **exchanged** in the summer of 1814 and given command of **regular** forces along the New England coast but saw no action. Chandler left the army in 1815 and spent the rest of his life busily involved in the affairs of Maine, serving for a period as a U.S. senator.

CHAPIN, CYRENIUS (1769–1838). Chapin was born in **Massachusetts** and trained to be a physician. He moved his family to the vicinity of **Buffalo, New York**, in 1803, but because no land was available, he took up residence at **Fort Erie, UC**, where he developed a successful practice. He relocated in Buffalo in 1806. Chapin was a member of the **New York Militia** and participated in the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit (1812)** (9 September 1812).

With the rank of **major**, he formed a **troop** of mounted **militia** in support of the American army at **Fort George** in June 1813. Later known as “the Forty Thieves,” Chapin’s riders participated in raids of homesteads through the **Niagara Peninsula**, kidnapping prominent citizens and gaining much notoriety with the British and Canadians. Chapin helped promote the idea to capture a British depot, leading to the disastrous defeat of a large American detachment under Colonel **Charles Boerstler** at the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June 1813), during which Chapin was captured. He and some of his men executed a daring escape by overcoming their guard while in **bateaux** in transit for **York, UC**, and he returned to Buffalo, much the hero.

Chapin enlisted more militia to fight in **UC** and crossed the border

to join the American force during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). He was involved in at least one particularly violent skirmish at the **Ball property** (14 August). When the main strength of the **regular** army withdrew from Fort George, first under Major General **James Wilkinson**, then Colonel **Winfield Scott**, and, finally, Major General **William Harrison**, Chapin remained to support the large militia force under Brigadier General **George McClure**, participating in his various forays through the vicinity. He had left, however, when McClure ordered the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December 1813), and he disagreed with McClure's actions.

Chapin joined the force under Major General **Amos Hall** in defense of the upper **Niagara River** after the British **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 November) and raids at **Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December). During the British **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December), Chapin joined in the heavy fighting and was captured. Hearing of his previous escape, Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** sent Chapin, individually, under heavy guard to **Montreal**, where he remained for nine months. It appears that he returned to Buffalo before the end of the war and worked in the military hospital there.

Chapin had his detractors among his countrymen, the loudest being Boerstler, whose comments after the battle of Beaver Dams were published posthumously in the 1830s and elicited a harsh published rebuttal by Chapin. In the meantime, he had continued his career in medicine and had taken up farming and was a well-respected member of his community.

CHARLOTTE, NEW YORK, FIRST BRITISH RAID AT (1 October 1812). Master and Commander **Hugh Earl** anchored his PM flagship *Royal George* off the mouth of the **Genesee River** on 1 October 1812. He landed about 80 men of the PM and the **Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiment** at the village of Charlotte, New York, and seized the **merchantman** *Lady Murray* and a smaller boat and their gear. The Americans put up no fight, and there were no casualties. This appears to have been the only successful action Earl took against the Americans.

CHARLOTTE, NEW YORK, SECOND BRITISH RAID AT (15 June 1813). Commodore **Sir James Yeo** brought his **squadron** to

anchor off the **Genesee River** on 15 June 1813 and sent a force of about 300 men to confiscate close to 500 barrels of food and a boat with 1,200 bushels of corn at the village of Charlotte, New York. Yeo's men faced no opposition.

CHARWELL (RN). *See* **EARL OF MOIRA.**

CHASSEUR (American Privateer). This **schooner** was built expressly as a **privateer** and given the sleek lines, light spars, and spread of sails that were the marks of a speedy **Baltimore** clipper. It was among the most successful of privateers, taking 18 **prizes** on one three-month cruise alone in 1814 and being on record for having over \$220,000 worth of prizes and cargo at Baltimore at one point.

One of its most noteworthy accomplishments occurred under Captain **Thomas Boyle** when he captured HM Schooner **St. Lawrence** (1813), Lieutenant **Henry Gordon** (26 February 1815). By then the schooner had earned esteem as "**The Pride of Baltimore.**"

Following the war, the *Chasseur* was sold to the Spanish navy. It is believed to have ended its days as a slaver captured by the British and put up for auction in 1835.

Type: 14-gun schooner. Launch: 1812, Baltimore. Armament: six 9-pdr lg, eight 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: approximately 115' ud × 26' × 12' 6" dh, 356 tons. Crew: 102.

CHASSEUR VS. ST. LAWRENCE (1813), NAVAL BATTLE OF (26 February 1815). HM Schooner **St. Lawrence**, Lieutenant **Henry Gordon**, was carrying dispatches about the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) to the British in the Gulf of Mexico on 26 February 1815, when the U.S. **privateer Chasseur**, Captain **Thomas Boyle**, spotted it and made chase. Being the quicker vessel, the privateer soon caught up, the *St. Lawrence* having carried away its fore topmast in trying to outpace its foe. Concluding that the British vessel was lightly armed and manned, Boyle raced past it, at which point Gordon suddenly cut across his stern and opened fire. Boyle recovered just as fast, and the two vessels exchanged **broadsides**: the British had one 9-pdr lg and 12 12-pdr crde, while the Americans had six 9-pdr lg and eight 18-pdr crde. Boyle's firepower tore up his opponent, and, as he closed to board him, Gordon surrendered. The

British lost six killed and 17 wounded, while Boyle had five killed and eight wounded. Boyle sent the *St. Lawrence* into Havana as a **cartel** with wounded and prisoners since it was too badly damaged to be repaired and sailed to an American port.

CHASSEURS BRITANNIQUES. *See* INDEPENDENT COMPANIES OF FOREIGNERS.

CHATEAUGUAY, BATTLE ON THE (26 October 1813). Early in September 1813, at the request of Major General **James Wilkinson**, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered Major General **Wade Hampton** to march his **division** of the **U.S. Army** at **Burlington, Vermont** (on the right wing of the **Ninth Military District**), into Canada via the **Richelieu River** and attack the British post at **Isle-aux-Noix**. Although he doubted his ability to achieve this goal, Hampton moved his 4,000-man division to **Plattsburgh, New York**, beginning early on 19 September and, with the support of Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron**, landed at **Champlain, New York**, late that evening and marched to the border. The next day, he advanced into LC, but the **skirmish at Odelltown** (20 September) and reports of his scouts convinced him that it was impractical to force his way down the Richelieu route. Instead, he marched back into **New York** and then about 70 miles westward to the village of Four Corners, New York, on the upper **Chateaugay River**. The division was harassed by native parties, and Hampton deployed part of his force to deflect this problem and to create a distraction near the Richelieu that resulted in raids conducted by Colonel **Isaac Clark**.

Weeks passed during which Hampton waited at Four Corners for instructions regarding his coordination with **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence** (October–November 1813). He learned that a British force was forming on the lower Chateaugay and, on Armstrong's advice, headed downriver to investigate on 16 October.

On 21 October, Hampton broke camp. His division now consisted of Colonel Robert Purdy's First Brigade (**Fourth and Thirty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry** and units of **12-month volunteers** from **Maine** and **New Hampshire**), Brigadier General **George Izard's** Second Brigade (**Tenth, Eleventh** merged with the **Twenty-**

ninth, Thirtieth merged with the **Thirty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, and a handful of **New York Militia**), 150 **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and 200 of the **Third Regiment of Artillery** and the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. It rained hard during the next days as the column proceeded slowly, its path barred by trees felled by the British.

Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry** had been charged with defending the lower Chateauguay. After a failed preemptive raid on Hampton's camp at Four Corners on 1 October, de Salaberry fortified a location about 25 miles from the mouth of the river. This consisted of four sets of **breastworks** in a wooded area on the western bank of the river—the first at a ford, the others further upstream. At the edge of the woods beyond the fourth breastwork, de Salaberry erected an **abatis** overlooking a wide cultivated field and about seven miles of unforested terrain.

De Salaberry commanded about 400 men, most of them French Canadian (70 **Canadian Fencibles**, 110 **Canadian Voltigeurs**, 130 **Select Embodied Militia**, 75 sedentary **LC Militia**, and 20 **Abenaki** and **Nipissing** warriors). In his rear, Lieutenant Colonel **George Macdonell** had about 1,370 men, most of them militia.

Hampton decided to attack de Salaberry before his position could be further strengthened; he did this despite having just been advised by Armstrong to build winter quarters and without having any further instructions about Wilkinson's movement. Late on 25 October, Hampton sent Purdy with 2,300 men (his brigade and **light infantry** from the other units) to the east side of the Chateauguay to capture the ford. The next morning, he sent Izard to attack de Salaberry with the remaining force but not the **artillery**.

Some of de Salaberry's men were at the abatis and ready to skirmish in front of it and fired the first shots around 10:00 A.M. De Salaberry hurried there with elements of his force, bringing the total to about 300 defenders. Izard advanced across the field with the Tenth Infantry and engaged the British for 20 minutes, then fell back to restore his ammunition.

Meanwhile, Purdy, who had lost his way during the night, was only just approaching the ford. A **company** of **LC Militia** and one of **Embodied Militia**, sent to guard the eastern approach with some native warriors, fired on his leading companies, which fell back.

Only desultory fire occurred until about 2:00 P.M., when Izard moved forward again with his entire force and warmly engaged de Salaberry, pushing into the woods. Hampton had orders shouted across the river to Purdy to retreat, at which point the two French Canadian companies and warriors engaged Purdy's men. His brigade dissolved into chaos (some of the officers even abandoned their companies) and scattered as it withdrew, although some returned the British fire well enough to force their retreat, too.

Macdonell arrived to occupy the breastworks behind de Salaberry's position but was not needed, as Hampton decided around 3:00 P.M. that the attack had failed and ordered Izard and Purdy to retreat back to their camp; most of Purdy's brigade spent another horrendous night in the woods before being able to recross the Chateauguay.

Hampton did not complete a list of casualties, though it was believed he lost 40 dead and at least as many wounded. The British had two killed, 16 wounded, and four taken captive. De Salaberry's immediate superior, Major General **Louis de Watteville**, and **Sir George Prevost** arrived on the ground during the final stages of the action; the latter's representation of his own part in the affair greatly offended de Salaberry.

There was no denying the importance of the victory, especially in light of how outnumbered the British were. Hampton demonstrated his limited battlefield acumen and then his lack of commitment to a coordinated effort with Wilkinson by marching back to Four Corners, where he informed Armstrong that his campaign was at an end on 1 November. A week later, his division headed for Plattsburgh.

CHATEAUGUAY RIVER. From its source in **New York**, the Chateauguay flows northward into Quebec (**LC**), then turns to roughly parallel the course of the **St. Lawrence River**, which it meets just above **Montreal** and about four miles west of **Kahnawake**.

CHAUNCEY, ISAAC (1772–1840). Born in **Connecticut**, Chauncey went to sea in his teens and then joined the **USN** as a **lieutenant** in 1799 and served during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) but without any distinction. He rose to **master commandant** in 1804 and **captain** in 1806.



The Battle of Chateaugay, 26 October 1813. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C3297

Chauncey commanded the **New York City** naval yard in 1812, when he received orders from Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** on 3 September to build up the U.S. naval forces on the Great Lakes as **commodore**. Chauncey demonstrated his administrative talents by mobilizing men and materiel for his command. He was at **Sackets Harbor** early in October and sailed on 8 November in the U.S. Brig **Oneida** with several converted **merchantman** on a brief voyage, resulting in **Chauncey's squadron's action at Kingston** (9–12 November). This expedition gave him control of **Lake Ontario**, which was the only American accomplishment of note on the northern border in 1812.

Chauncey began an ambitious shipbuilding program at Sackets, utilizing the skills and industry of shipbuilder **Henry Eckford**. He strengthened his squadron and in the spring of 1813 landed and supported American troops during the **battles of York** (27 April) and **Fort George** (27 May). These events were the largest combined operations ever accomplished by American forces to that date, although

Chauncey and his military cohorts rarely receive credit for their accomplishments.

After the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May), Chauncey, concerned about the security of his base, withdrew there to await the launch of the *General Pike*. He sailed late in July and encountered Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** several times during August but could not bring him to a decisive battle; during this time, he lost two **schooners** in a storm and two to capture. In September, Chauncey narrowly missed destroying Yeo's squadron during the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September). From late September until November, he was expected to cover and support the movement of the American force under Major General **James Wilkinson** from **Fort Niagara** to **Montreal**, which he did grudgingly. During this time, **Chauncey captured a troop convoy** (6 October), left virtually unprotected by Yeo.

Chauncey supported and supervised Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** campaign on **Lake Erie** in 1813, but Perry's complaints about shortages of men and materiel and failure to communicate directly with the commodore led to a falling out between them. In 1814, Chauncey's overall command was divided when Captain **Arthur Sinclair** was sent to command on the upper lakes.

Realizing that he needed more firepower to keep up with Yeo's building program at Sackets, Chauncey undertook the construction of four warships early in 1814, which is often referred to as the "**shipbuilders' war**." Construction was slow, and Yeo controlled the lake early in the spring, winning the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May) and then **blockading** Sackets briefly. Further delayed by a bout of illness, Chauncey did not sail with his four new warships until late July, earning him the sharp criticism of Major General **Jacob Brown** for failing to support his army on the **Niagara Peninsula** and his near removal by Secretary of the Navy **William Jones**. Chauncey controlled the lake during August and September, blockading Yeo's warships at Kingston and **Niagara**. He returned to Sackets shortly after *HMS St. Lawrence* (1814) was launched, prepared for an attack, and began building two **first-rates** and another large **frigate**. The war ended before the vessels were completed, and Chauncey left the lakes, having held command longer than any other American of-

ficer on the northern border. He has been often criticized for being overly cautious in the deployment of his squadron. Hampered by strained supply lines, indecisive orders from Secretary Jones, and the need to support military operations, Chauncey never had the freedom of command that Perry or Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough** did.

He remained an influential figure in the USN for the rest of his life, serving in posts ashore and afloat.

CHAUNCEY'S CAPTURE OF A TROOP CONVOY (6 October 1813). Following the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September 1813), Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** returned to **Fort Niagara** with his **squadron** to consult Major General **James Wilkinson** regarding his plans to transport part of his army to **Sackets Harbor**. When Wilkinson set out in a large flotilla of **bateaux** and other small craft on 2 October, Chauncey sailed onto the lake to watch out for Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron**. Thinking Yeo had headed east, Chauncey steered that course and on 6 October, about 25 miles southwest of **Kingston, UC**, spotted a number of vessels that he took at first to be Yeo. They were, in fact, seven small vessels transporting wounded men and the **flank companies** of **De Watteville's regiment** to Kingston. Leaving his own **schooners** behind, Chauncey sent his larger warships in pursuit and by sundown had captured six of the craft, including his former **Julia** and **Growler**, renamed the **Confiance (1813)** and **Hamilton (1813)**, respectively, and 252 prisoners. This was Chauncey's biggest personal victory over his enemy during the war. Yeo arrived at Kingston the next day and was furious to discover that his officers had not avoided capture. **Sir George Prevost** criticized Yeo for failing to adequately escort the convoy.

CHAUNCEY'S SQUADRON. When Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** arrived at the head of about 400 USN officers and men at **Lake Ontario** early in October 1812, the squadron there consisted of the U.S. Brig **Oneida** and a couple of converted **merchantmen**. With the help of industrious men like Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey**, USN, and shipbuilder **Henry Eckford**, Chauncey was able to equip more vessels quickly and set out to seek the British. With a squadron consisting of the **Oneida** and the former merchantmen **Hamilton**, **Governor**

Tompkins, *Conquest*, *Growler*, *Julia*, and *Pert*, Chauncey chased PM vessels and fought an action at **Kingston** (9–12 November 1812) that won him control of Lake Ontario.

The *Madison* and *Lady of the Lake* were launched and added to Chauncey's squadron in 1813 along with the converted *Ontario*, *Fair American*, *Asp* (1813A), *Raven*, and *Scourge*. He received a series of detachments to man his vessels, including officers and men of the **U.S. Marine Corps**. With this force, Chauncey supported the military landings at the **battles of Fort York** (27 April) and **Fort George** (27 May), undeterred by the PM. With the arrival of Commodore **Sir James Yeo** and the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May), Chauncey withdrew to Sackets to await the launch of the powerful *General Pike*.

In the *Pike*, he set out late in July to seek Yeo, his total firepower consisting of 46 **carronades** (crde) and 66 **long guns** (lg), making it possible for him to fight more effectively at a long distance than Yeo could. However, their first encounters showed that the converted merchantmen sailed poorly as **gunboats**, which combined with the inexperience of the USN crews to cause the **loss of the Hamilton and Scourge** (8 August) in a storm and the **capture of the Julia and Growler** (10 August). Chauncey added the newly launched *Sylph* to his line in August, after which he had 38 crdes and 53 lgs. With this firepower, Chauncey came close to destroying **Yeo's squadron** at the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September). Seamanship—and some luck—saved Yeo.

In the winter and spring of 1814, Chauncey had the U.S. Sloops *Jones* (1814B) and *Jefferson* and the USS *Superior* and *Mohawk* built. The work was delayed by indecisive orders from Secretary of the Navy **William Jones**, bad weather, the effects of the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May), and Yeo's **blockade** of Sackets. When it sailed late in July, the squadron considerably outgunned Yeo's 1814 squadron, having 100 crdes and 123 lgs. It controlled the lake until HMS *St. Lawrence* (1814) was launched but accomplished nothing material except for the pursuit and **destruction of HM Brig Magnet** (5 August).

Chauncey intended to add two **first-rates** and another large **frigate**

to his force in 1815, but the projects were stopped when the war ended.

CHAUNCEY'S SQUADRON'S ACTION AT KINGSTON (9–12 November 1812). Commodore **Chauncey** sailed from **Sackets Harbor** on 8 November 1812 in the U.S. Brig *Oneida* with the recently converted schooners *Hamilton*, *Governor Tompkins*, *Conquest*, *Growler*, *Julia*, and *Pert*. He spotted the PM flagship *Royal George* the next day, but it escaped toward **Kingston**. He cruised toward the mouth of the **Bay of Quinte** and along the Canadian shore.

On 10 November, the *Hamilton* went ashore at **Amherstview** and captured the schooner *Two Brothers*. Shortly thereafter, Chauncey sighted the *Royal George* and made chase. He followed the ship right into Kingston Harbor, where Master and Commander **Hugh Earl** anchored and turned his vessel to fight off the Americans. Shore **batteries** supported the *Royal George* as Chauncey's line made several passes, exchanging fire with the British. As evening fell and bad weather threatened, Chauncey hauled off and anchored near the western tip of **Wolfe Island**. The Americans suffered two killed and eight wounded, while the British reported one man wounded; the *Royal George* sustained minor damage.

The Americans sailed onto the lake on 11 November but turned to chase the merchantman *Governor Simcoe*, which tore a hole in its hull when it escaped capture by passing over shoals. Chauncey returned to Sackets on 12 November because of a gale. The next day, the *Growler*, which had become separated from the **squadron**, arrived, having captured two merchantmen, the *Mary Hatt* and the *Elizabeth*. Because of Chauncey's presence, the PM vessels did not venture onto the lake again during 1812.

CHAZY, NEW YORK. This village is located on the shore of **Lake Champlain** about nine miles south of the **LC** border and 12 miles north of **Plattsburgh, New York**.

CHERUB (RN). Commanded by Captain **Thomas Tucker**, the *Cherub* joined with HMS *Phoebe*, Captain **James Hillyar**, to capture the USS *Essex* at Valparaiso, Chile, on 28 March 1814. The **RN** sold the *Cherub* in 1820.

Type: 26-gun **sixth-rate ship-sloop**. Launch: 1806, Dover, UK. Standard armament: two 6-pdr lg, eight 18-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 108' 4" gd × 29' 7" × 9', 422 tons. Crew: 125.

CHESAPEAKE (USN). This was the unlucky **frigate** that was involved in the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807) and that was captured by HMS *Shannon* (1806), Captain **Philip Broke** (1 June 1813). The **RN** sold the **ship** in 1819.

Type: 36-gun frigate. Launch: 1799, **Norfolk, Virginia**. Actual armament: (1812) 30 18-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde; (1813) 28 18-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 152' 11" bp × 41' 11" × 13' 9", 1,244 tons. Crew: 340.

CHESAPEAKE BAY. This body of water, the largest estuary in the **United States**, is bounded by **Virginia** and **Maryland** and provides access from the Atlantic Ocean to a large number of significant eastern seaboard ports. From the mouth of the Susquehanna River in the north to the margin of the ocean, the bay is 189 miles long and covers about 64,000 square miles of water. More than 150 rivers drain into it, the most important of which, during the war, were (from south to north) the Elizabeth, James, Rappahannock, **Potomac**, **Patuxent**, Patapsco, and Susquehanna. Important places on and near its banks during the war included **Norfolk** and **Hampton**, Virginia; **Washington**, D.C.; and **Bladensburg**, Annapolis, **Baltimore**, **Havre de Grace**, **Frenchtown**, and **Georgetown**, Maryland.

CHESAPEAKE–LEOPARD AFFAIR (22 June 1807). From late 1806 through 1807, a **squadron** of British warships under Vice Admiral **Sir George Berkeley** kept post off **Chesapeake Bay** waiting to intercept French **frigates** known to have taken refuge in those waters. The British routinely visited **Norfolk, Virginia**, for supplies and water, during which dozens of their seamen and **marines** deserted. American seamen and soldiers also deserted to British vessels, resulting in a long, drawn-out diplomatic debate about the return of deserters.

In spring 1807, British officers learned that some of their former hands had enlisted into the USS *Chesapeake*, resulting in protests from the British and claims by the Americans that the seamen were

American citizens who had suffered unlawful **impressment**. When the *Chesapeake*, under the command of Master Commandant **Charles Gordon**, set sail on 22 June 1807 to carry Commodore **James Barron** to the Mediterranean Sea to assume command of the squadron there, HMS *Leopard*, Captain **Salusbury Humphreys**, intercepted it and demanded the return of the deserters. This discussion led to Barron's refusal to have his men inspected, after which the *Leopard* fired on the Americans for 10 minutes, killing three men and wounding 15. Barron signaled surrender, having been able to respond with only one gun. The British then boarded and seized four suspected British deserters.

The incident, which became known as the *Chesapeake–Leopard* Affair, provoked American outrage and gravely worsened Anglo-American relations. It added fuel to public indignation caused by the *Leander* (1780) Affair (25 April 1806). President **Thomas Jefferson** closed all ports to British warships and proposed a trade **embargo** that became law on 22 December 1807. The **court-martial** that was convened early in 1808 to investigate the near destruction of the *Chesapeake* ended with Barron's five-year suspension from duty for failing to ensure that the warship was ready for an emergency. Humphreys returned with Berkeley to England, where he was placed on **half pay** and never employed at sea again, although he eventually rose to the rank of **admiral**. Berkeley received no formal reprimand.

The British tried the four suspected deserters at **Halifax** in August 1807. The court proved that one was a British citizen and ordered his execution by hanging. Insufficient evidence existed to prove that the other three were also British, but they were confined until July 1812, when the British returned two of them to the **USN** at Boston, the third man having died in the interim.

CHICAGO MASSACRE. *See* DEARBORN, FORT, MASSACRE AT.

CHICKASAW. This nation farmed and hunted on the lands of the Mississippi River in northern **Mississippi** and southern **Tennessee**. They were strong backers of the British during the **Seven Years' War** (1756–1763) and proved themselves as fierce warriors in helping to defeat the French. During the **Creek War** (1813–1814), they allied

themselves with the Lower Creeks and the American forces under **Andrew Jackson**.

CHIPPAWA, UC. Chippawa is located at the mouth of the Chippawa Creek (commonly termed the Welland River), which flows into the **Niagara River** two miles above Niagara Falls. In 1812, it was the southern terminus for the British portage around the falls and was guarded by a **blockhouse** and its dilapidated **palisade** (sometimes called Fort Chippawa), which was considered too weak to defend against an attack.

CHIPPAWA, BATTLE OF (5 July 1814). When he heard that Major General **Jacob Brown** had crossed the **Niagara River** from **Buffalo** to **Fort Erie, UC**, with a large force on 3 July, Major General **Phineas Riall** expected that the **garrison** at Fort Erie would put up a brave fight and delay Brown's advance. Unaware that Brown had achieved the quick **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July), Riall thought that the Americans marching toward his headquarters at **Chippawa** on 4 July were only the lightly manned advance party.

To determine the strength of the American camp about one mile south of Chippawa, Riall sent **militia** and native warriors across **Chippawa Creek** early on 5 July as scouts, and, contrary to orders, they began to skirmish with the Americans. Riall concluded that his enemy numbered about 2,000 and would likely crumble under an aggressive attack and so decided to do battle. The reinforcements having arrived, Riall's force, the British Right Division, consisted of about 1,500 **regulars** (1/1st, 1/8th, and 100th **Regiments of Foot**, about 70 of the 19th **Regiment of (Light) Dragoons**, and about 70 **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with three 6-pdrs, two 24-pdrs, and one **howitzer**), elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**, about 200 **Lincoln County Militia**, 200 **Grand River Six Nations** warriors under **John Norton**, and 100 of the "**Western Indians**." Riall crossed the Chippawa with them around 3:30 P.M. and marched to form his line in a clearing of cultivated fields on the bank of the Niagara just south of Chippawa. He sent 300 of the Lincoln Militia and natives into the forest, bordering the clearing to the west to attack Brown's camp from the cover of the trees.

Brown's campaign on the Niagara River had begun with bri-

gades of regular infantry under Brigadier Generals **Winfield Scott** and **Eleazar Ripley** and a third brigade of militia and native warriors under Brigadier General **Peter Porter** as well as **artillery** and **dragoons**. Scott and Ripley's brigades were in the camp near Chippawa with the **artillery** and **dragoons** on 4 July. Porter's men reached the camp only in the afternoon of 5 July, and, when Riall's militia and natives began their attack after 3:30, Brown ordered Porter to clear the forest to the west of the camp. With about 500 volunteers, mainly **Pennsylvania Militia** and natives (**Senecas, Tuscaroras, Onondagas, and Oneidas**), Porter charged into the woods and pushed the British back. His progress was suddenly halted by volleys of **musketry** from part of Riall's force, and Porter withdrew, chased by the British militia and natives.

Observing Porter's skirmish in the woods, Brown realized that Riall had come to fight, and at 4:30 he ordered Scott's brigade to advance. Under heavy artillery fire, the First Brigade (**Ninth, Eleventh, Twenty-second, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), about 1,300 strong, deployed with well-trained precision and was soon supported by a company of the **Corps of Artillery**. It was at this point that Riall, realizing that he was not facing a mob of unruly militia, is said to have exclaimed, "**Why, these are regulars.**"

Ordering **bayonets**, Riall signaled an advance and closed on Scott. The two lines exchanged repeated volleys, while Riall's **light infantry** in the woods engaged the Twenty-fifth Infantry on Scott's left flank. Commanded by Colonel **Thomas Jesup**, this **regiment** pushed back the enemy in the woods and then threatened Riall's right flank. Meanwhile, Brown sent up two more companies of artillery and ordered Ripley to send the **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry** through the trees to the west and north to attack Riall's rear; they arrived too late. Brown also began to bring up the rest of the First Brigade. The ferocious firefight between the main portions of the opponents caused heavy losses, and Riall's commanders were unable to get their men to charge home with their bayonets. Finally, Riall signaled a retreat that was conducted slowly and orderly, despite the harassing presence of a troop of the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**, until the entire British force had crossed the bridge to Chippawa and removed its center span. The Americans advanced to the bank of the

Chippawa River and kept up their fire until Brown ordered them to return to camp around 6:30 P.M.

It had been a very bloody affair. Brown reported 58 killed, 241 wounded, and 19 missing, while Riall's toll was 148 killed, 321 wounded, and 46 missing. Staggered by the defeat and his heavy losses, Riall soon retreated from Chippawa. Winfield Scott's strictly disciplined brigade had shown its worth, and Brown had deployed his force effectively to win the first American victory of the war on the open field.

CHIPPAWA CREEK, UC. Also known as the Welland River, this stream flows eastward on the upper (southern) plain of the **Niagara Peninsula**, emptying into the **Niagara River** two miles above the falls at **Chippawa** and across the river from **Fort Schlosser, New York**. This was the upper terminus of the portage route from the lower river at **Queenston**; shipping accessed **Lake Erie** from here.

CHIPPEWA. This nation was closely connected to the **Ojibwa** of the **Lake Superior** and **Lake Huron** region, and both names often referred to the same people.

They fought along with the British in 1813 at **Frenchtown** (22 January), **Fort Meigs** (May and July), and **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), but this last battle left many of them discouraged, and they returned to their homelands. Others left UC with **Main Poc** after Major General **Henry Procter** announced his intention to abandon **Fort Amherstburg** and retreat to **Burlington** in September. A few probably remained to fight at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October), after which some survivors joined the "**Western Indians**" at **Burlington Heights**. They later participated in the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December) and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December). In 1814, some warriors were probably at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

In 1814, elements of the Chippewa fought with the British on the Mississippi River during the **siege of Fort Shelby, Prairie du Chien** (17–20 July) and the American **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August).

Representatives from Chippewa tribes signed the **Treaty of**

Spring Wells (8 September 1815) with American officials to formally end hostilities.

CHIPPEWA (PM/RN). Captured by the British at **Fort Mackinac** on 17 July 1812, this vessel ended up as part of Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was destroyed in the British raid at **Buffalo** on 30 December 1813.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1810, near Toledo, **Ohio**, as a **merchantman**. Actual armament: (1813) one 9-pdr lg. Dimensions: 35 tons. Crew: 8.

CHOCTAW. The people of this nation were farmers and hunters who inhabited the central portions of **Mississippi Territory**. They maintained a neutral stance during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and formed later treaties with the **United States** and with Spain. Threatened by encroaching American settlers, they allied themselves with the U.S. government and joined **Andrew Jackson** and the other American leaders to oppose the “Red Sticks” of the **Creek** nation during the **Creek War**. In December 1814, a small number of warriors joined Jackson during his defense of **New Orleans** and were present during the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

CHUB (RN). See *EAGLE* (1812) (USN).

CIRCLE. Usually seen in warships, this was a circular or semicircular track on which a specially fitted **gun** carriage could be rotated so that the gun could be fired through more points of the compass than if it had been mounted at one of the gun ports.

CLARK, THOMAS (?–1835). Clark was one of a group of Scots who went to **UC** in the 1790s to work as a merchant. He was ambitious and successful and eventually owned facilities at **Queenston**, **Chippawa**, and **Fort Erie**.

When the war started, he was the **lieutenant colonel** of the 2nd

Lincoln County Militia Regiment stationed at Chippawa. He was involved in the fighting at the **battles of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) and **Frenchman's Creek** (28 November), was present in the latter stages of the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June 1813), led the **raid at Fort Schlosser** (5 July), and was wounded at the **raid at Black Rock** (11 July). Following this, he went to Scotland, returning in 1814, but saw no further action in battle.

He spent the rest of his life actively involved in business and civic affairs.

CLARK, WILLIAM (1770–1838). A native of **Virginia** like his eventual partner Meriwether Lewis, with whom he gained prominence as an explorer of the American West, William Clark became the governor of **Missouri Territory** in 1813. He sought permission from Secretary of War **John Armstrong** to occupy **Prairie du Chien** to interfere with the British fur trade and so that the British could not use it as a base for an invasion down the Mississippi River. In the spring of 1814, he led an expedition to successfully occupy the place on 2 June. He ordered the building of **Fort Shelby, Prairie du Chien**, but it fell to the British on 20 July. Clark returned to St. Louis and sent reinforcements north, but they were turned back at the **first skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (21 July). Clark worked with Brigadier General Benjamin Howard to send a stronger force under Major **Zachary Taylor**, but it was turned back at the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September). Clark remained the governor of the territory until 1820.

CLAY, HENRY (1777–1852). Clay was born in **Virginia**, simply educated, and employed at first as a store clerk. His potential revealed itself, however, and he was guided into the study of law. In 1797, he moved to Kentucky, where he gained renown as a successful lawyer with an interest in affairs of the nation. He served as a **Republican** for two periods in the U.S. Senate in 1806 and 1809, filling vacancies, and was also influential in the state legislature. He was elected for service in the U.S. House of Representatives, where, in 1811, he stood out as one of the leading **“War Hawks.”** Elected Speaker of the House, Clay had much influence and promoted aggressive poli-

cies in regard to Britain, supporting the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812).

In 1814, when the British signaled their willingness to discuss terms of peace, President **James Madison** nominated Clay to be one of the five peace commissioners. He eventually worked at Ghent with **John Quincy Adams, James Bayard, Albert Gallatin, and Jonathan Russell** to negotiate the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Clay's outspoken manner and high living clashed with Adams's conservative values, and Gallatin often mediated their disputes.

Following the war, Clay spent the rest of his years fully involved with federal politics, with terms in the House and the U.S. Senate, and a term as secretary of state during Adams's presidency.

COCHRANE, SIR ALEXANDER FORESTER INGLIS (1758–1832). A Scot by birth and the uncle of one of the foremost **RN** officers, Thomas, Lord Cochrane (1775–1860), Alexander Cochrane entered the **RN** in the 1770s and received a **commission** as **lieutenant** in 1778. He became a **master and commander** in 1780 and **post captain** in 1782 but was on **half pay** through most of that decade. From 1793, he was nearly continuously employed on a wide variety of stations, seeing much action against the French. Cochrane rose to **rear admiral** in 1804, was made a **CB** in 1806 and a **vice admiral** in 1809, and from 1810 was the commander in chief of the **RN Leeward Islands Station** and governor of Guadeloupe. Notable in his limited biographical coverage is the fact that he arranged the promotion of his son Thomas to the rank of post captain in 1806 shortly after his 15th birthday.

In November 1813, Cochrane was ordered to replace Admiral **Sir John Warren**. Warren had commanded the **North America Station** and **West Indies Station**, but the Admiralty reverted to its previous system and assigned Cochrane only to the former, with responsibility for operations between the Gulf of Mexico and the **St. Lawrence River**, Rear Admiral **Edward Griffith** acting as his subordinate, commanding the northern division of warships from New England to **Quebec**. Cochrane was to be reinforced with **ships** and military **units**, his goals being to create a diversion to the American campaigns against **UC** and **LC** and to damage American commerce and distress the populace. Before leaving England, he discussed with **Ad-**

miralty and government officials a number of campaign options, including attacks on New England, the **Chesapeake Bay** region, and the Gulf of Mexico coast.

Cochrane arrived at **Bermuda** on 6 March, but Warren did not transfer command until 1 April, when he departed for England. One of the first orders Cochrane gave was for the British **blockade** to be extended to cover New England. While he waited for the military units to arrive under the command of Major General **Robert Ross**, Warren ordered Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** to continue with the raids he had conducted the year before under Warren as preliminary steps in **Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September). Before heading there, Cochrane also ordered preliminary operations in what would become **Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

While the Chesapeake campaign revealed how vulnerable the American coast was to energetic raids and attacks, especially with the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August 1814), it ended with the failed **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign ended in a dismal failure with the **final assault on New Orleans** (8 January 1815), the most profound British defeat of the war.

Following the war, Cochrane was made a **GCB** but remained unemployed until becoming commander in chief at Plymouth in 1821. He died while traveling in Paris.

COCHRANE'S CHESAPEAKE BAY CAMPAIGN (April–September 1814). Although Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** was the central figure in the British campaign in the **Chesapeake Bay** region in 1814, Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**, his superior, gave the orders that underlay the events of the campaign.

After reaching **Bermuda** in March, Cochrane ordered Cockburn, already in Chesapeake Bay, to establish a base of operations, which he did at **Tangier Island**. He also issued a proclamation inviting black slaves to join the British for service in a military **unit**, eventually known as the **Corps of Colonial Marines**, to work as **artificers** at Tangier Island or in the dockyard at Ireland Island at Bermuda or to be sent to **Nova Scotia** or the West Indies. In addition, Cochrane, who detested the Americans and made reference to the **burning of**

Niagara, UC (10–11 December 1813), gave Cockburn clear orders to act aggressively with force against American settlements and posts. This resulted in numerous, wide-ranging incidents on the American coast, typified by the **skirmishes at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (30 May); **Cedar Point, Maryland** (1 June); and **St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June).

It was not until early July that President **James Madison** and his cabinet agreed that the British were planning a dangerous campaign in the Chesapeake. To prepare for this, they created the **Tenth Military District**, and Madison appointed Brigadier General **William Winder**, hoping to garner the support of his uncle, Maryland Governor Levin Winder. Secretary of War **John Armstrong** opposed this selection and refused to support Winder's preparations, which were indecisive, haphazard, and misdirected and further compounded by the meddling of Secretary of State **James Monroe**. Madison did not exert his authority to settle and coordinate affairs in any decisive way. Only limited parts of six **regular** fighting units (the **Twelfth, Thirty-sixth, and Thirty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**, the **U.S. Marine Corps**, and USN personnel) were available for service, leaving the bulk of the defense to **militia**, making matters only worse.

While Cockburn proceeded with operations in the Chesapeake, Cochrane remained at Bermuda until the last of the military reinforcements arrived in July. These included 900 officers and men of the Third Battalion of **Royal Marines** (soon to be reorganized as the new 2nd Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel James Malcolm of the old 2nd Battalion, just arrived from **Quebec**) and a company of **Royal Marine Artillery** (which he sent to Cockburn in July); the **1/4th, 1/44th, and 1/85th Regiments of Foot** (2,800 strong); elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**, under Major General **Robert Ross**; and the **1/21st Regiment of Foot** (1,000 in number). Cochrane had believed he would receive more than twice this number of men and, as he had done since arriving in Bermuda, continued to puzzle over how best to use them. He sailed in HMS *Tonnant* with Ross's **division** on 29 July for the Chesapeake, where he met with Cockburn in the mouth of the **Potomac River** on 14 August; two days later, Rear Admiral Sir Pulteney Malcolm arrived with the main

fleet and transports, bringing the total of British warships in the bay to over 50.

Still undecided about what to do first, Cochrane viewed a plan Cockburn had developed for an attack on **Washington** with some doubt, but when Ross supported the gist of the scheme, Cochrane allowed them to land and undertake what led to the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August) and the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August). At the same time, Cochrane ordered Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September), which was also successful.

Cockburn had recommended that success at Washington be followed up quickly with an attack on **Baltimore**, but Cochrane vacillated, and it was not until the second week of September that he abruptly decided to head for that place. This led to the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September). Ross was killed, and, seeing the strength of the unprecedented American defenses, Cochrane called off the operation.

He now went back to **Halifax**, sent Cockburn to Bermuda to refit in preparation for the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–April 1815), and left Rear Admiral Pulteney Malcolm in charge of the Chesapeake operations; Malcolm handed that task to Captain **Robert Barrie** when he returned in October from Halifax.

COCHRANE'S GULF COAST CAMPAIGN (May 1814–February 1815). Although the British **fleet** under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** did not arrive off the southern coast of the **United States** until December 1814, the **admiral** had put the wheels in motion for the expedition the previous spring.

The British government had heard through various channels that warriors of the **Creek** nation (and possibly the **Chickasaw** and **Choctaw** nations also) and British sympathizers on the Gulf coast would be willing to join an attack against the Americans. In April 1814, Cochrane sent Captain **Hugh Pigot**, HMS *Orpheus*, to make contact with these people and supply them with arms. Pigot's report of his visit in May to the **Apalachicola River** in western **Florida** told of the weakness of the American military in that quarter and the potential willingness of the Creek nation to join with the British. It

also supported the popular notion that the capture of **Mobile** would facilitate the downfall of **New Orleans**. Cochrane next sent Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** to arm and train Creeks and refugee slaves and to begin operations on the coast. At first successful, this effort resulted in the failed British **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September) and the American **capture of Pensacola** (7 November). Major General **Andrew Jackson**'s leadership had now come into play, not just at the latter event but also in the fact that his aggressive campaigning had broken the back of the "Red Stick" Creeks during the **Creek War** (1813–1814) and that they could provide little assistance to the British.

In the meantime, the government informed Cochrane that a large reinforcement was on its way to join him for a campaign in this quarter under Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham**. Cochrane requested that a flotilla of large shallow draft boats be sent to him for use in the shallow waters around the Mississippi delta. Encouraged by reports like that of Pigot, he expected the Creek nation to be helpful to his campaign, especially if it started at Mobile. Cochrane ordered Cockburn to conduct the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–April 1815) to help pursue this objective.

Negril Bay, on the northwestern coast of Jamaica, was the British rendezvous point where a convoy had arrived from Europe early in November. News of this spread quickly to the Americans, as did details of the British plan. Cochrane arrived there in HMS *Tonnant* with warships and transports from his **Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814) on 24 November. He left the next day with three other vessels to meet with Nicholls at Apalachicola. Major General **John Keane** was with him, and the two of them decided that, given the lack of help from the Creeks and the apparent American strength near Mobile, a landing there was not feasible. Accordingly, they sailed toward New Orleans, where, about 70 miles from the city, they encountered the shallow inshore waters and the first American resistance, which led to the **battle of Lake Borgne** (14 December).

Rear Admiral Pulteney Malcolm arrived with the rest of the fleet, and the tremendously fatiguing process of moving about 6,000 troops to land began. This involved ferrying them in boats and the shallowest of the warships to Pea Island, about 40 miles west of the fleet and 30 or so miles east of New Orleans. Pea Island was little more than a

marshy sand spit, and during the five days it took to land the troops there, everyone was exposed to daily downpours of rain and freezing temperatures at night. A scouting party found Bayou Bienvenue, an unguarded outlet on the west shore of **Lake Borgne**, and in consultation with Cochrane and other senior officers, Keane chose this as his landing point for an advance on New Orleans. Early on 22 December, his advance brigade set out from Pea Island, reaching the bayou late that evening. Following the bayou and a tributary for about nine miles, the British established a camp at the Villeré plantation on 23 December. That night, Jackson launched his **attack on Villeré's plantation**.

It has often been said that Keane should have attacked New Orleans with the vanguard of the army, the rest of which did not arrive until late the next day. Widely published, too, but based primarily on hearsay, have been the accounts of Pakenham's displeasure with the situation of his army and from which he would have withdrawn had Cochrane not browbeat him into remaining. Villeré's was nearly 80 miles from the main fleet with the river on one side and marsh and cypress swamps on the other side of a narrow band of soggy land stretching toward New Orleans. The sick list of Pakenham's army was mounting daily as well, but this battle-hardened veteran of the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) chose to pursue the object of the campaign. On 28 December, Pakenham launched his **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** to probe Jackson's strength, which he found to be formidable. The same proved true when Pakenham decided, with Cochrane's full support, to storm Jackson's defenses after trying to breach them in the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), but this proved unsuccessful. When the last of the army arrived under Major General **John Lambert** a few days later, Cochrane and Pakenham again worked cooperatively to form a plan that went badly wrong in the face of the devastating American fire during the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). Pakenham was killed, and Lambert succeeded him, agreeing with Cochrane to withdraw the army to the fleet.

The retreat took nearly three weeks of tortuous effort, with infantry and **batteries** left in place as a feint until the last possible moment; the **1/40th Regiment of Foot** arrived but did little service. A **squadron** of warships made a **bombardment of Fort St. Philip**

(9–18 January), about 30 miles up the Mississippi from the Gulf, without capturing it and then rejoined the fleet. With everyone embarked, Cochrane sailed on 6 February to Dauphine Island in the mouth of Mobile Bay, the dry and hospitable place to where much of the army had already been landed to recuperate. On 12 February, Lambert's troops forced the bloodless **capture of Fort Bowyer**. The next day, a **ship** arrived with news of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Before long, the British headed home.

It had been a disastrous campaign, costing the British more than 2,500 casualties out of about 8,000 military troops; naval losses added hundreds to that toll. The Americans would forever applaud their victory over the thin red line.

COCKBURN, GEORGE (1772–1853). This officer was first listed as a **captain's** servant in the **RN** in 1781, although his actual service at sea did not begin until 1786. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1793, then **master and commander** and **post captain** the next year. Cockburn did almost continuous duty afloat in numerous stations, acquiring much notice and increasing responsibility because of his energy and skills. In August 1812, he advanced to the rank of **rear admiral** and was at Cadiz, Spain, when he received orders on 18 November to join the command of Admiral **Sir John Warren** at **Bermuda**. After a difficult voyage, Cockburn reached Bermuda on 17 January and immediately ordered much-needed repairs to his flagship **HMS *Marlborough***. Warren arrived soon after to confer with Cockburn, who finally sailed on 18 February.

Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign lasted from March to September, and although the senior admiral held command, it was Cockburn who gained fame and infamy for his aggressive inshore operations. His practice of destroying the private property of anyone suspected of opposing his landings gained him a reputation among the Americans for barbarity. He made no excuses for his methods, questioning instead the hypocrisy of the American government in promoting the use of **torpedoes** and other devious devices designed to sink a **ship of the line** and kill 600 British seamen in one stroke.

Cockburn returned to Bermuda for a refit late in September 1813. After inspecting the **blockading squadrons** on the eastern seaboard in January and transferring into **HMS *Albion***, he proceeded to **Ches-**

apeake Bay. With a limited number of warships at hand and most of them worn out by prolonged duty and in need of supplies and refits, Cockburn restricted himself to patrolling and making reconnaissances of the bay.

Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** took command of the **North America Station** from Warren on 1 April 1814, having ordered Cockburn to find a base for the summer operations and where refugee slaves could be congregated. He chose **Tangier Island**, and after 6 April, Lieutenant Thomas Fenwick, **Royal Engineers**, began laying out fortifications and accommodations there. Although still strapped for supplies, **ships**, and men, Cockburn stepped up his forays ashore in May and claimed at the end of June to have done a million dollars worth of damage. Slaves fled to his patrols, and he had the first **company** of the **Corps of Colonial Marines** trained and outfitted. Typical of incidents during this time was the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (31 May).

Hearing that the long-rumored movement of Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla** was under way from **Baltimore**, Cockburn ordered Barney to investigate. This resulted in the **skirmish off Cedar Point, Maryland** (1 June), and the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June), which forced Barney to retreat up the **Patuxent River**. Cockburn personally directed constant raids along the Patuxent early in July and sent another small force to act similarly near Baltimore. When more warships with 900 officers and men of the Third Battalion of **Royal Marines** (soon to be reorganized as the new 2nd Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel James Malcolm of the old 2nd Battalion, just arrived from Quebec) and a company of **Royal Marine Artillery** reached him on 15 July, Cockburn sent Captain Joseph Nourse in the **frigate Severn** and smaller vessels to raid the Patuxent again and conduct a thorough survey of its course. Meanwhile, Cockburn made a series of raids on both shores of the Potomac between 19 July and 12 August, facing little opposition, taking few casualties while burning places of resistance and public property and confiscating tons of goods. The **Maryland** and **Virginia Militias** and regular army units did little to interfere with his plans.

When Cochrane finally arrived with Major General **Robert Ross** and about 4,000 **infantry**, Cockburn was able to convince them to make the expedition on the Patuxent River that resulted in the **battle**

of **Bladensburg** (24 August) and the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August) and, in conjunction with it, Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September). Ross showed hesitation during the campaign, and Cockburn ignored an order that Cochrane sent to stop the march short of Washington, choosing instead to encourage Ross onward. Although great success was reaped, Cochrane appears to have been peeved by Cockburn's conduct, and, though Cockburn recommended a quick follow-up attack on Baltimore, Cochrane delayed. He had, in fact, ordered Cockburn back to Bermuda but suddenly changed his mind. The resulting **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), including the **battle of North Point** (12 September), ended in failure. Cockburn was active throughout, but when Ross was killed, his successor, Colonel **Sir Arthur Brooke**, could not guarantee success to Cochrane, who then called off the operation. Cochrane sent Cockburn to Bermuda to refit, while he returned briefly to **Halifax**.

As part of his **Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815), Cochrane ordered Cockburn to conduct the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–April 1815), which was Cockburn's last service in the war.

Cockburn was made a **KCB** in 1815 and continued a steadily active career; he was elected to Parliament, was the first lord of the **Admiralty** in the 1840s, and became **admiral** of the **fleet** in 1851.

COLLIER, SIR GEORGE RALPH (1774–1824). This officer joined the **RN** as a **midshipman** around 1790 and is known to have been a first **lieutenant** in 1799. He was promoted to **commander** that year and to **post captain** in 1802 for successful naval actions against the French. He was made a **KB** in 1807.

He moved into the new **frigate *Leander*** (1813) early in 1813 and chased and captured the U.S. Brig ***Rattlesnake***, Lieutenant **James Renshaw**, off Sable Island on 22 June 1814. In company with HMS *Newcastle* and HMS *Acasta* on 11 March 1815, Collier recaptured HMS ***Levant*** near the Cape Verde Islands but failed to catch up to the USS ***Constitution***, Captain **Charles Stewart**, and its second **prize**, HMS ***Cyane***. Collier was the senior officer in the **squadron** and explained the failure to catch *Constitution* on 11 March as owing



*George Cockburn, 1772–1853. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C37594*

to confusion over signals and murky weather. He separated from his consorts and tried to find the American frigate but was unsuccessful.

Collier remained afloat with **commissions** after the war and was highly regarded. He was made a **KCB** in 1815. After his actions in the Cape Verde Islands were criticized by William James in his *Naval History of Great Britain*, Collier committed suicide by cutting his throat.

COLONEL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

COLOR. A large silk flag representing a **regiment**.

COLORED CORPS. This single **company** of blacks was formed within the **Lincoln Militia** in 1812. It came under the command of Captain Robert Runchey. They were present at the **battles of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) and **Fort George** (27 May 1813). When the **UC Militia** was reorganized early in 1813, the company was named the **Corps of Artificers**.

COLORS. The national **standard** and regimental **color** issued to a **regiment** was also known as a stand of colors.

COLUMBIA (USN). Ordered in January 1813, this **ship** was intended to improve on the already successful large **frigates** *Constitution*, *United States*, and *President* (1800). It was laid down in the **Washington** navy yard later that year and was nearly ready for launch in August 1814, when the Americans burned it to keep it from the British during the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August).

Type: 44-gun frigate. Probable intended armament: 33 32-pdr lg, 20 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 44' 6" × 13' 8" dh, 1,508 tons. Crew: 400.

COLUMBIAD. The American George Bomford developed this smooth-bore weapon similar to a **carronade**.

COMMANDER. *See* NAVAL RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

COMMISSION. The document known as a commission was issued to certain officers, certifying them to serve in specific positions. A warship was in commission when commanded by one of these officers and out of commission when it was not. *See also* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY; RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

COMMODORE. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

COMMODORE PREBLE (USN). The USN bought this vessel in 1813, and it was part of Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's** squadron at the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 9-gun **sloop**. Launch: 1810, **Lake Champlain** as **merchantman** *Rising Sun*. Actual armament: (1814) nine 9-pdr lg. Dimensions: ? Crew: 30.

COMPANY. *See* REGIMENT.

CONFIANCE (1796) (RN). Originally the French *La Confiance*, this vessel was captured off Spain in 1805 by a naval party under Lieutenant **James Yeo**. He was promoted to **commander** and given the **sloop** after it was bought into the **RN**. It was later made a **post ship** when he was promoted to **captain**. It was sold in 1810.

Type: 22-gun **sixth-rate corvette**. Launch: 1796, Bordeaux, France, as *La Confiance*. Actual armament: two 6-pdr lg, 22 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 117' ud \times 31' 27/8" \times 14' dh, 491 tons. Crew: 140.

CONFIANCE (1813) (RN). *See* JULIA (USN).

CONFIANCE (1814A) (RN). This was the flagship of Captain **George Downie's** squadron that was captured at the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814. It was laid up in 1815 and allowed to decay.

Type: 37-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1814, **Isle-Aux-Noix, LC**. Actual armament: 27 24-pdr lg, four 32-pdr crde, six 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 147' 5" lower deck length \times 37' 2" \times 7' dh, 1,200 tons. Crew: 270.

CONFIANCE (1814B) (RN). See *TIGRESS* (USN).

CONGRESS (USN). This **frigate** made three cruises during the war, capturing several **merchantmen** without encountering any British warships. It was broken up at **Norfolk** in 1834.

Type: 36-gun frigate. Launch: 1799, Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Actual armament: (1812) 24 18-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 163' 3" bp × 41' 6" × 14' 3" dh, 1,268 tons. Crew: 340.

CONGREVE ROCKETS. Only the British used rockets in the War of 1812. They were designed by William Congreve Jr. and consisted of a "rocket" attached to a long stick and fired from a tripod. Rockets varied considerably in size and composition, depending on their application. For instance, the shell of a "heavy" rocket, suited for a **siege**, might measure eight inches in diameter, contain explosives and incendiary material, weigh several hundred pounds, have a 24-foot stick, and a range of up to 2,500 yards. First used by a part of the **Royal Horse Artillery** (which became known as the **Rocket Troop**) in 1805 and the **Rocket Corps** in 1809, they saw only limited use, as their flight paths were erratic, prompting some officers, such as the Duke of Wellington, to doubt their worth. Actions on the northern border where they were used included the **battles of Lacolle Mill** (30 March 1814) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July 1814). They were regularly used during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813) and Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814), usually from **rocket boats** but also on land and from the **rocket ship Erebus**.

CONJOCTA CREEK, NEW YORK. This creek is located about five miles down the **Niagara River** from **Lake Erie** near **Black Rock**. It is also known as Scajaquada Creek.

CONJOCTA CREEK, NEW YORK, SKIRMISH AT (3 August 1814). Following the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July 1814), Major General **Jacob Brown's** Right Division of the Ninth **Military District** retreated to **Fort Erie**. Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** was slow in pursuing Brown's army. In an attempt to destroy

Brown's supply depots and **batteries** at **Black Rock** and **Buffalo** (and, it was falsely said, free Major General **Phineas Riall** from captivity), Drummond ordered a force to cross the river late on 2 August. It was commanded by Colonel **John Tucker** and consisted of 380 officers and men from the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, single **companies** from the **2/89th** and **100th** and **104th Regiments of Foot**, and a dozen of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**. Tucker was given the option of turning the American batteries on the American force at Fort Erie, and Commander **Alexander Dobbs** was waiting with a party of **RN** seamen to attack and capture **USN schooners** anchored near Fort Erie once Tucker had succeeded. The British began crossing late on 2 August, and after several trips, everyone was across at a point downriver of **Conjocta Creek**, which lay between them and their first target, Black Rock.

Major **Lodowick Morgan** had observed movement by the British on their side of the river late on 2 August, and he decided to deploy his 240 officers and men of the newly arrived **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** behind a barricade they quickly put together on the southern bank of Conjocta Creek; they also removed the planks from the bridge.

Just before dawn on 3 August, Tucker started his march, but his advance party was cut to ribbons at the bridge by Morgan's men. Over the next two hours, Tucker charged Morgan's position and tried to outflank it but could not, as the riflemen proved too determined and too accurate in their fire.

Tucker retreated to **Chippawa** having accomplished nothing, which infuriated Drummond. British losses were 12 killed, 17 wounded, and five missing, while Morgan had two killed and eight wounded. Morgan was highly praised for his effective defense of Brown's vulnerable flank.

CONKLING, AUGUSTUS H. M. (1789–1822). A native of **Virginia**, Conkling entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1809 and was posted in 1811 to the **USS Constitution**. In October 1812, he was ordered to **Sackets Harbor**, where he was assigned to the **USS Madison** as an acting **lieutenant**. In April 1813, after being arrested for striking a **warrant** officer, Conkling was moved into the **U.S. Brig Oneida**, in which vessel he saw action at the **battles of York** (27 April) and **Fort**

George (27 May). In July, Conkling was officially promoted to lieutenant and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** sent him to join Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** **squadron** at **Erie, Pennsylvania**. He commanded the U.S. Schooner ***Tigress*** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September).

In the summer of 1814, Conkling commanded the U.S. Schooner ***Ohio***, which was detached along with the ***Porcupine*** and ***Somers*** from Captain **Arthur Sinclair's** **Lake Erie squadron** to support the Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** under Major General **Jacob Brown** at **Fort Erie**. On 12 August, a British raid under Commander **Alexander Dobbs** succeeded in the **capture of the *Ohio* and *Somers***. Conkling remained a captive for the balance of the war and was subsequently absolved of blame during an inquiry into the loss of the vessels. Following the war, Conkling remained in the service but without promotion until he resigned in 1820.

CONNECTICUT. Connecticut was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Hartford. In 1810, its population was about 262,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—0 for, seven against; U.S. Senate—0 for, two against. During the war years, its governors were Robert Griswold (**Federalist**, 1811–1812) and John Cotton Smith (**Federalist**, 1812–1817).

CONNECTICUT MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 22,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **standing militia**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, Connecticut's quota was 3,000. Governor Roger Griswold, joining with the **Federalist** governors of **Massachusetts** and **Rhode Island**, refused to follow the order. He declared that the federal government did not have the constitutional power to order out the militia, that there was no real external or internal threat to justify their activation, and that they could never serve under the command **U.S. Army** officers. In 1813, about half the militia was detached for temporary duty, being organized into two **brigades** of four **regiments** each to protect certain points such as at New London in June 1813, when a British **squadron** threatened U.S. warships anchored there. The state's quota in the

July 1814 federal call for militia mobilization was again 3,000. A small party of militia vigorously served the **artillery** during the pointless British **bombardment of Stonington** (9–12 August 1814).

CONQUEST (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1812. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 3-gun schooner. Launch: 1810, **Ogdensburg, New York**, as the **merchantman** *Genesee Packet*. Actual armament: (1813) two 24-pdr lg, one 6-pdr lg. Dimensions: 82 tons. Crew: 66.

CONSTELLATION (USN). This **ship** was rebuilt through 1812 and 1813 at **Norfolk, Virginia**, where it remained **blockaded** through the balance of the war. The *Constellation* was broken up at Norfolk in 1854.

Type: 36-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1797, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: (1812) two 32-pdr lg, 24 18-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 164' bp × 42' 2" × 13' 6" dh, 1,268 tons. Crew: 340.

CONSTITUTION (USN). Captain **Isaac Hull** commanded the **ship** when it evaded a British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke** on 19 July 1812 and when it destroyed HMS *Guerrière* on 19 August. Under Captain **William Bainbridge**, "Old Ironsides," so called after its stout timbers reportedly deflected British shot, destroyed HMS *Java* (1805) off Brazil on 29 December 1812. Captain **Charles Stewart** was in command when the **frigate** captured HM Schooner *Pictou* (14 February 1814) and HMS *Cyane* and HM Sloop *Levant* (20 February 1815) and then evaded the British squadron led by HMS *Leander* (1813). The *Constitution's* career continued through to the 1890s, after which it was restored and moved to Boston for permanent preservation and display.

Type: 44-gun frigate. Launch: 1797, Boston. Actual armament: (1812) 30 24-pdr lg, one 18-pdr lg, 24 32-pdr crde; (1814) 31 24-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 43' 6" × 23' dr, 1,576 tons. Crew: 480.

CONSTITUTION CAPTURES PICTOU (14 February 1814). HM Schooner *Pictou*, Lieutenant **Edward Stephens**, was convoying the

merchantman *Lovely Ann* from Barbados to Surinam late on 13 February 1814, when the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, ranged into view. Stewart captured the merchantman in the night and about 8:00 A.M. the next morning fired a shot at the *Pictou* at close range, prompting Stevens to surrender. Stewart put all the prisoners into the *Lovely Ann*, after removing its cargo, to return on their **parole** to a British port. He scuttled the *Pictou*.

CONSTITUTION VS. CYANE AND LEVANT, NAVAL BATTLE OF (20 February 1815). Captain **Charles Stewart** took command of the USS *Constitution* at Boston in the spring of 1813 and made his first cruise late that year. Returning to Boston, he was **blockaded** until December 1814, when he headed across the Atlantic. On 20 February 1815, about 200 miles east-northeast of Madeira, Stewart spotted two British warships, HMS *Cyane*, Captain **Gordon Falcon**, and HMS *Levant*, Captain the Hon. **George Douglas**, much smaller in size and strength than the *Constitution*. The British sailed to engage Stewart, and the fighting began at twilight, around 6:00 P.M. After 15 minutes, the *Cyane* fell off badly damaged though still firing at the *Constitution* until forced to surrender. Stewart then put a **prize** crew on board and headed after the *Levant*, which was escaping. Douglas turned back to fight but soon gave up to the Americans.

The British suffered 12 killed and 45 wounded, while the *Constitution*'s casualties were four dead, 14 wounded. With both prizes under command, Stewart sailed to anchor at the Porto Praya in the Cape Verde Islands on 10 March. The next day, Captain **Sir George Collier** in HMS *Leander* (1813), with HMS *Newcastle* and HMS *Acasta* under his command, arrived. Though in a neutral port, Stewart set sail at once with his prizes. The British pursued them but managed to recapture only the *Levant*. Stewart's defeat of two **ships** in one engagement and his escape from heavy British **frigates** were considered remarkable feats of seamanship.

CONSTITUTION VS. GUERRIÈRE, NAVAL BATTLE OF (19 August 1812). With Captain **Isaac Hull** in command, the USS *Constitution* first came into contact with HMS *Guerrière*, Captain **James Dacres**, when it was part of the British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke**, HMS *Shannon*, which failed to capture the *Constitu-*

tion during a long chase off **New Jersey** late in July 1812. Hull sailed to Boston for supplies and then cruised off the **maritime provinces**.

He learned from an American **privateer** that a British **frigate** was in the vicinity and at mid-afternoon on 19 August 1812 spotted the *Guerrière* at a point about 500 miles southeast of **Newfoundland**. The **ships** came into range at 5:00 P.M., at which time Dacres fired two **broadships** and then attempted to get upwind of the *Constitution*. This he failed to do, and Hull closed on the *Guerrière* and opened fire. The weight of the American broadsides swept the British decks, sent the mizen mast crashing overboard, and disabled the main mast. Hull pulled away to repair his minor damage and when he returned learned that Dacres, with the approval of his officers, had agreed to surrender.

The engagement lasted less than three hours. The British suffered 15 dead and 63 wounded, while American losses were seven killed and seven wounded. The *Guerrière* was so badly damaged that Hull ordered it burned the next day before returning to Boston with his prisoners and captured goods. Hull became a celebrated hero, while Dacres suffered the ignominy of being the first British **frigate captain** to lose a fight with an American ship.

CONSTITUTION VS. JAVA (1805), NAVAL BATTLE OF (29 December 1812). Sailing independently off Brazil, the USS *Constitution*, Captain **William Bainbridge**, encountered HMS *Java*, Captain **Henry Lambert**, on the morning of 29 December 1812. The *Java* was en route for India carrying dignitaries and all their equipment, but Lambert gamely pursued the *Constitution*, and the two exchanged their first **broadships** around 2:00 P.M. During the next two and a half hours, the captains put their **ships** through a series of complex tactical maneuvers in which Lambert and his crew performed with great skill and determination, but the size and force of the *Constitution* won the day, leaving the *Java* a dismasted, battered hulk.

The Americans suffered 14 dead and 20 wounded, while the British tally was 22 dead and 102 wounded, among whom was Lambert, who sustained a fatal **musket** wound. Because of the condition of the British frigate, Bainbridge ordered it scuttled.

CONTINENTAL SYSTEM. This term referred to the steps Napoleon took through the decrees of **Berlin** (1806), **Milan** (1807), **Bayonne**

(1808), and **Rambouillet** and **Fontainebleau** (1810) as well as through the **Cadore letter** and the **Trianon Tariff** (1810) to shut Britain out of all commercial dealings with Europe. Although they were essentially **paper blockades**, France managed to detain more than 300 American **merchantmen** under the first three decrees alone.

CONTINUOUS VOYAGE. *See* BROKEN VOYAGE.

COOK'S MILLS, UC. This hamlet was situated about 12 miles southwest of **Chippawa** on Lyons Creek, a tributary of **Chippawa Creek**. It was established by Loyalists Noah and Calvin Cook after the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), when they dammed Lyons Creek (which runs west to east) and built their mill on the north side of it.

COOK'S MILLS, UC, SKIRMISH AT (19 October 1814). After Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** lifted the **siege of Fort Erie** during the third week of September 1814, he withdrew his Right Division to **Chippawa**, where it took post on the north side of **Chippawa Creek** in a strong defensive position.

On 15 October, Major General **George Izard**, who, senior in rank to Major General **Jacob Brown**, had taken command on the **Niagara River**, marched his Right Division of the Ninth **Military District** and part of Brown's Left Division from **Fort Erie** down to Chippawa to challenge Drummond to a battle. Izard's division consisted of about 4,300 men making up Brigadier General **Daniel Bissell's** First Brigade (**Fifth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Brigadier General Thomas A. Smith's Second Brigade (**Fourth, Tenth, Twelfth, and Seventeenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), some **Corps of Artillery**, and part of the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**. Drummond would not accept the challenge, and after an artillery exchange on 16 October, Izard withdrew.

Izard decided to probe Drummond's western flank and sent Bissell's **brigade** with a **company** of the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Rifles**, some **artillery**, and **dragoons**, between 900 and 1,500 men in all, to seize and destroy British provisions at Cook's Mills.

Learning of the movement, Drummond sent elements of the **Glen-garry Light Infantry** and the **1/82nd Regiment of Foot** under Colo-

nel **Christopher Myers** toward Cook's Mills with orders to feel out the enemy but avoid an engagement with a larger force. On 18 October, Izard ordered three companies across Lyons Creek to establish an advanced post at the Mills. Hearing of this, Drummond sent Lieutenant Colonel George Hay, Marquis of Tweeddale, forward with portions of the 82nd, **100th**, and **104th Regiments of Foot**; some of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with a single **field gun**; and some of the **Rocket Corps** with their **Congreve rockets**; the British strength was about 750 with Myers in command.

The British had skirmished with the Americans during the night, and on the morning of 19 October, Myers sent the Glengaries to engage the American advance party. Bissell responded by moving toward the creek with his main body, and this resulted in a drawn-out series of skirmishes between the two forces. Myers eventually withdrew, as did Bissell, around 2:00 p.m. Bissell ordered the destruction of 200 bushels of grain but prohibited the destruction of the mills before marching to rejoin Izard.

Casualty counts vary considerably, but it seems that this skirmish resulted in about 12 Americans dead and 53 wounded, while the British had up to 20 killed and 35 wounded. It was the final engagement of the war on the **Niagara Peninsula**.

CORNET. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

CORNWALL, UC. Located about 65 miles up the **St. Lawrence River** from **Montreal**, this village was settled in 1784 by United Empire Loyalists. Lying at the foot of the Long Sault rapids, it served as a landing and storage point for British supplies during the war.

CORNWALLIS (RN). Under the command of Captain John Bayley, the **ship** chased the U.S. Sloop **Hornet**, Master Commandant **James Biddle**, from 27 until 29 March 1815 in the South Atlantic but failed to capture it. The *Cornwallis* was converted into a steam vessel in 1855 and broken up in 1957.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1813, Bombay, India. Actual armament: (1813) 28 32-pdr lg, 28 18-pdr lg, six 12-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 176' gd × 47' 6" × 21' dh, 1,809 tons. Crew: 480.

CORPORAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

CORPS OF ARTIFICERS. *See* COLORED CORPS; UC MILITIA.

CORPS OF ARTILLERY (U.S.). In March 1814, the **First, Second, and Third U.S. Regiments of Artillery** were consolidated to form this **unit**, which was originally intended to consist of 12 **battalions** of four **companies** each. In 1814, it recruited in **New York** and **Pennsylvania**.

Elements of the **regiment** participated in such 1814 actions as **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), **Oswego** (5–6 May), **Sinclair's expedition to the upper lakes** (July–September), **Michilimackinac** (4 August), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Fort Erie**, (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October), the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September), the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek** (8–26 June), the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December) and, in 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **bombardment of Fort St. Philip** (9–18 January).

CORPS OF CANADIAN VOYAGEURS. This **unit** was composed of experienced boatmen, or voyageurs, from the **North West Company**. It was created early in October 1812 and stood about 300 strong with the influential merchant William MacGillivray as its **lieutenant colonel**. Besides operating **bateaux** in the convoy service on the **St. Lawrence River**, the men **garrisoned** such places as **Prescott** and **Akwesasne (St. Regis)**. They were present and suffered casualties at the latter place when the Americans attacked it on 23 October. The corps was dissolved in March 1813 and reorganized as the **Provincial Commissariat Voyageurs**.

CORPS OF COLONIAL MARINES (RN). This corps was formed at **Tangier Island** in **Chesapeake Bay** in 1814 by order of Vice Admi-

ral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**. He issued a proclamation inviting black slaves to join the British, at which point they could take up arms, work as **artificers**, or be transported as refugees to **Nova Scotia** or the West Indies. Hundreds of slaves fled to the British patrols, and some of them chose to join the Corps of Colonial Marines serving under Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**. His previous doubts about their usefulness were removed when the men showed their competence and eagerness to serve. They were outfitted in the uniform of the **Royal Marines**, and 30 of them saw their first action during the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (31 May), and then again during the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June). Eventually, three **companies** were created and during the summer were united with three companies of the newly reorganized 2nd Battalion of Royal Marines to make up a new 3rd Battalion.

CORPS OF ENGINEERS (U.S. Army). Formed during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and disbanded in 1783, this corps was reorganized in 1794. In 1801, it was known as the U.S. Corps of Artillerists and Engineers. From 1802, its new officers were graduates of the **U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York**. The corps had 20 officers in 1813. They were involved in every campaign during the war, and among the most active and prominent of the officers were David B. Douglass, Charles Gratiot, **Joseph Totten**, and **Eleazer Wood**.

CORPS OF ROYAL ARTILLERY DRIVERS (British army). This unit originated in the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** in the 1790s and was formally organized as the Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers in 1806. By 1814, it numbered nearly 7,400 officers and men and consisted of uniquely large **companies** of over 600 men each. Its task was to handle the transportation of **field pieces**, their ammunition, stores, and equipment wagons, and the corps was divided into numerous detachments to effect this. At times, the men were called on to serve the guns as well.

The first detachment of the corps reached **Quebec** in July 1812, and by the end of the war the number had grown to over 600 officers and men, most of whom arrived in the summer of 1814. The corps'

headquarters was at Quebec in 1812 and then moved to **Montreal** in 1813. To reinforce the small number of drivers, a company, or **troop**, of artillery drivers was raised in **LC** in January 1813 and a second in **UC** in April 1813 and were known as the **Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers**.

Elements of the “Gunner Drivers,” as they were also known, were involved in the events leading up to and during the **battle of Chrysler’s Farm** (11 November 1813). They were on the **Niagara Peninsula** in 1814 and were involved in the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July) and the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September 1814). Other elements were part of **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814). A detachment of the corps also participated in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814) and his **Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS (British army). Formed originally in 1717, this corps, while an indispensable part of the **British army**, was administered by the Ordnance Board. Its officers, of whom there were only 262 in 1813, were trained at the **Royal Military Academy** and advanced only by seniority. They were involved in nearly every campaign of the war, and among the most notable individuals were **Ralph Bruyeres**, **John Burgoyne**, and Matthew C. Dixon.

CORVETTE. Vessels such as the USS ***Madison*** were classified as corvettes because they lacked the size and firepower of a **frigate** and were often flush-decked (i.e., without a raised quarterdeck or forecas-tle). They carried their guns on this one deck.

COURT-MARTIAL. By this process, officers were appointed to a court for the purpose of investigating the charges brought against a member of the army or navy in regard to his conduct and determining the individual’s guilt or innocence in relation to those charges. The number and seniority of the officers in the court varied according to circumstances and the status of the individual involved. The court also determined the degree to which a culpable individual should be admonished or punished. In some instances, a board of inquiry was

held first to determine if charges against an individual were warranted.

COVINGTON, LEONARD (1768–1813). Covington was born in **Maryland** and served as a **commissioned** officer in the **U.S. Army** briefly in the 1790s. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1805 and to the state senate in 1807. Two years later, he re-joined the army, first as a **lieutenant colonel**, then as a **colonel** of the **First Regiment of Light Dragoons**.

In 1812, Covington was posted at **New Orleans**. In August 1813, he was promoted to **brigadier general** and ordered north to **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Here he commanded the Third Brigade during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813). While advancing on foot with his men to attack the British line during the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November 1813), he was shot in the stomach. Covington died on 13 November and was first buried at **French Mills, New York**, which was renamed Fort Covington after the war.

CRANBERRY CREEK, NEW YORK, SKIRMISH AT (19 July 1813). On 18 July 1813, about 50 **New York Militia** under Samuel Dixon (serving occasionally under Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**) and Lieutenant Colonel Jehial Dimmick (New York Militia) left **Sackets Harbor** in the sloops *Neptune* and *Fox* (the *Fox's* owner applied for a **letter of marque** from the U.S. government) to intercept a British **bateau** convoy on the **St. Lawrence River**; Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** and Major General **Morgan Lewis** had approved the expedition. The militia attacked a 15-bateau convoy under the guard of the British **gunboat** *Spitfire* the next day between **Gananoque** and **Prescott, UC**, capturing most of the boats, 250 barrels of pork, 300 bags of bread, ammunition, and other gear and taking more than 60 prisoners. One or more of the British boats escaped and sounded the alarm, and two groups of **gunboats** and bateaux from **Prescott, UC**, were soon looking for the Americans.

Fearing they would be intercepted, the militia went up Cranberry Creek (on the New York shore just southeast of Gananoque and sometimes misidentified as Goose Creek) and, forming a barricaded position, prepared to face an attack. The next morning, the Prescott

detachment met with more **regulars** from **Kingston** (from the **1/41st** and **100th Regiments of Foot**) and **RN** officers and men under Major Richard Frend at the mouth of the creek and advanced on the Americans. The British were caught in an ambush from which, after a short but fierce exchange, they withdrew, having suffered four killed and 17 wounded; Captain Henry Milnes, aide-de-camp to **Sir George Prevost**, was mortally wounded in the affair. The Americans sailed safely to Sackets two days later.

CRANE, WILLIAM MONTGOMERY (1784–1846). Crane was born in Elizabeth, **New Jersey**, and joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1799, seeing action in the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805), and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1803. He was on board the USS *Chesapeake* during the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). Crane took command of the U.S. Brig *Nautilus* in June 1812 but lost it when a British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke** captured the *Nautilus*, off **New York City**, on 17 July 1812, making it the first American vessel captured in the war. Crane was acquitted of blame in the subsequent **court-martial** and was promoted to **master commandant** in March 1813 and to the USS *John Adams*. This **frigate** was blockaded at **New York City**, and Crane was sent in July 1813 to join Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** at **Sackets Harbor, New York**, where he commanded the U.S. Sloop *Madison* and later the U.S. Sloop *General Pike*. He became a **captain** in November 1814.

Crane was appointed **commodore** in 1827 and committed suicide after feeling responsible for a gun-testing accident that killed two cabinet secretaries and six other people in 1844.

CRANEY ISLAND, VIRGINIA, ASSAULT ON (22 June 1813).

Admiral **Sir John Warren** returned to **Chesapeake Bay**, after sailing to **Halifax** and **Bermuda**, on 19 June to pursue his 1813 campaign with a significant reinforcement of land troops sent from England via Bermuda. Commanded by Colonel **Sir Thomas Beckwith**, the force consisted of 842 officers and men of the 1st Battalion of **Royal Marines**, the same number of the 2nd Battalion, 50 **Royal Marine Artillery** (which probably included some of the **Rocket Corps**), 300 of the **102nd Regiment of Foot**, and 300 men in the

two **Independent Companies of Foreigners**. Warren wanted to attack **Norfolk** to destroy its resources, the USS *Constellation* and the **Gosport Navy Yard**, as he had been originally ordered by the **Admiralty**. The capture of American defenses on Craney Island, which guarded the mouth of the Elizabeth River, was the first objective in his plan. Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** had sounded and surveyed the area thoroughly and wanted to command the assault, but Warren gave command to Captain Samuel Pechell of his flagship, the *San Domingo*.

Craney Island, low lying in profile, was located on the west side of the mouth of the Elizabeth River, with a shallow ford near its northwestern corner connecting it to the mainland during low tide. A wide shoal stretched north of the island. Lieutenant Colonel Henry Beatty of the **Virginia Militia** commanded the island's force, which totaled about 770 officers and men (150 USN seamen, **U.S. Marines**, a **company** of the **Twentieth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, and Virginia Militia). They were positioned at a **battery** on the northern end of the island, which had four 6-pdr **long guns** covering the water approach over the shoals and three other guns (two 24-pdrs and one 18-pdr) covering the ford and the mainland to the west. Captain John Cassin commanded the 15 USN **gunboats**, manned by USN personnel and **marines**, arranged at first in an arc southeast of the island.

Pechell organized a two-pronged assault. Beckwith landed on the mainland about three miles northwest of the island with about 800 men (200 **RN** seamen, three companies of marines and artillery, four companies of the 102nd, and a company of the Independent Foreigners). Beckwith would march to attack the island from the west, while Captain John Hanchell, RN (with Warren and Pechell in attendance), led an amphibious attack (500 shipboard marines, part of the 102nd, and a company of Independent Foreigners) directly at the batteries on the north. Under Cockburn, some of the vessels would bombard the island.

Beckwith landed under cover of darkness early on 22 June, and though there was minimal militia resistance, he struggled through the forest and terrain to come abreast the island. He fired **Congreve rockets** at the island, drawing a return from the American guns, and Beckwith withdrew. Meanwhile, Hanchett's boats had begun their advance, but they grounded on the shoals hundreds of yards offshore,

at which point the American battery and some of the gunboats opened up on them. Two British boats sank and were captured. Seeing the assault devolving into chaos and without attempting to land his men and storm the battery, Pechell abruptly called off the attack, and by evening the force had reembarked.

Warren's report noted Hanchett and seven seamen wounded and 10 others missing, while Beckwith reported three dead, eight wounded, and 52 missing; most of the missing were deserters from the undisciplined Independent Foreigners, although a false rumor spread that the men were murdered as prisoners by the Americans. Beatty and the others declared no casualties at all and were exultant at their easy victory.

CREEK. Today known as the Muskogee nation, in 1812 the Creek nation inhabited parts of what became **Alabama** and **Georgia**. During the 1700s, its people were divided into two groups, the Lower Creeks (who favored relations with British colonists) and the Upper Creeks (who sided with the French and Spanish). Some Creeks joined **Te-cumseh** after his visit to them in 1811, and others are said to have been with him in 1813 and present at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October).

A history of disharmony between the two groups resulted in the outbreak of a civil war, the **Creek War** (1813–1814). This led to the ruination of the Upper Creeks, who were unable to offer much assistance to the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (June 1814–February 1815). Trouble continued for these people even following the Treaty of Fort Jackson (9 August 1814).

The most prominent leader of the “Red Sticks” was the prophet Josiah Francis.

CREEK WAR (1813–1814). The division between the Upper and Lower Creeks broke into warfare in 1813 after some of the former group killed some American settlers. This group, known as the “Red Sticks,” opposed acculturation with the Americans, something that was favored by the Lower Creeks, under the advice of longtime government agent Benjamin Hawkins. As hostilities increased during the summer of 1813, the **Mississippi Militia** became involved. The Red

Sticks procured arms and ammunition from the Spanish in **Florida** and attacked American holdings, such as the battle at Fort Mims (32 miles north of Mobile, Alabama) on 30 August, when about 250 settlers and **militia** were killed. This led to the eventual activation of the **Georgia, Tennessee, North Carolina, and South Carolina Militias** and some federal forces and brought **Andrew Jackson** into the fray. On 27 March 1814, he commanded the attack on the fortified Red Stick village at Horseshoe Bend (about 200 miles northeast of **Mobile**), resulting in more than 800 Red Sticks being killed. Within two months Jackson became a **major general** in the **U.S. Army**, and he conducted negotiations that led to the Treaty of Fort Jackson (9 August 1814).

Although some Red Sticks survived to join with British forces in Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (June 1814–February 1815), their power was crushed. At the same time, Andrew Jackson's rise to fame had been accelerated.

CROGHAN, GEORGE (1791–1849). Croghan was born in Locust Grove, **Kentucky**, in 1791. Educated in law, he joined Brigadier General **William Harrison's** force as a **private** volunteer in 1811 and was present at the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811). The following March, he entered the **U.S. Army** as a **captain** in the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, which became part of Harrison's **Army of the Northwest**.

Croghan was promoted to **major** in March 1813 and was present during the building and the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May), during which he earned praise for the part he played in Colonel **John Miller's** sortie against British batteries on 5 May. Harrison put him in command of **Fort Stephenson**. After the **investment of Fort Meigs** (July) by the force under Major General **Henry Procter**, Harrison ordered Croghan to abandon Fort Stephenson, but the message arrived after Procter appeared. Croghan chose to fight off the British with his 160-man **garrison**, which he did successfully during the assault on 2 August; for this he was **brevetted to lieutenant colonel** and, in 1835, presented with a gold medal by Congress. His refusal to follow Harrison's order to retreat apparently caused friction between the two officers.

Croghan was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** in the **Second U.S.**

Regiment of Rifles in February 1814, at which time he commanded the garrison at **Detroit**. Secretary of War **John Armstrong** favored an expedition into the upper lakes to destroy the rumored British base at **Matchedash Bay** and sent orders to that effect to Croghan's junior colleague Major **Andrew Holmes**. Croghan was offended by this breach in protocol (as was Major General **William Harrison**, who soon resigned) and protested it. He ended up in command of the military detachment in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (with Holmes as his second in command). Croghan's attempt to assault **Michilimackinac** (4 August) failed miserably, but he and Sinclair managed the **destruction of the Nancy** (13 August).

Croghan resigned his **commission** in 1817 but reentered the army in 1825 as a **colonel** and the inspector general and remained to participate in General **Zachary Taylor's** campaign in Mexico in the 1840s.

CRYSLER'S FARM, BATTLE OF (11 November 1813). This action came about as a result of a failure in command and control during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) and the effective deployment of the available British forces.

On 10 November, Wilkinson had intended to run his flotilla down the Long Sault rapids and encamp at **Cornwall, UC**. This movement was delayed, however, by the continued skirmishing with British elements in his rear. The British force consisted of about 1,200 men on shore and a detachment of seven **RN gunboats** under Commander **William Mulcaster**. The land force, a "corps of observation," was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison** and consisted mainly of the **1/49th** and **2/89th Regiments of Foot**, with **companies of Canadian Fencibles, Canadian Voltigeurs, Royal Regiment of Artillery**, elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers, Provincial Light Dragoons, Provincial Commissariat Voyageurs**, and 30 Mohawk warriors from the **Tyendinaga**. Companies from the **Stormont, Glengarry, and Dundas County Militias** also pestered the Americans at various points.

Wilkinson had landed a **brigade** under Colonel **Alexander Maccomb** on 7 November and then Brigadier General **Jacob Brown's** brigade on 8 November to fend off the enemy forays. On 10 Novem-

ber, he sent both brigades toward Cornwall in preparation for the flotilla's descent. Most of the rest of his force was landed as well to march downriver as the flotilla made its passage. The "corps of observation" made contact with the American rear guard on 9 November, leading to 10 November being a day of short marches and countermarches by both forces, resulting in Wilkinson's flotilla advancing only two miles rather than descending the Long Sault.

On the drizzly morning of 11 November, the British had taken post at the farm of John Crysler. Two miles downriver, the American flotilla lay awaiting its movement. Wilkinson was too sick to stand, and his second in command, Major General **Morgan Lewis**, was also indisposed. The ranking officer was Brigadier General **John Boyd**, who received confusing orders to head for Cornwall and then return. British and American **skirmishers** had made contact from dawn, as had Mulcaster's gunboats, and around noon, when one of Wilkinson's aides repeated a previous order to Boyd to "turn and beat him" should the enemy "harass his rear," Boyd ordered his column to march west to engage Morrison. Wilkinson and Lewis remained on their boats.

Boyd's detachment consisted of his First Brigade under Colonel Isaac Coles (**Twelfth and Thirteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Brigadier General **Leonard Covington's** Third Brigade (**Ninth, Sixteenth, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Brigadier General Robert Swartout's Fourth Brigade (**Eleventh, Fourteenth, and Twenty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry**) 150 **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and two 6-pdr **field guns** from the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and four from the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. About 600 men from different **units** had been delegated to guard the boats and did not enter the action until its final phase. The **Fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** (normally with Boyd) had been sent down to Brown's camp at Cornwall. Brigadier General **Moses Porter** had inexplicably crossed to the American shore with a large portion of the **artillery** and then descended the rapids. Subtracting the one in five who were sick and still aboard the boats, one authority suggests that Boyd took between 2,200 and 2,400 men into action against a force roughly half that size.

Morrison had not pressed his attack earlier, as he wanted to wait until he gained a good defensive position, which he found on Cry-

sler's fields. This terrain measured about 1,000 by 700 yards east of the Crysler house with the river to the south and forest to the east and north. The field was cut by two deep gullies and two ravines. He sent the **dragoons** to skirmish at the eastern end of the field. He kept his main strength of the 49th and 89th in line with a pair of 6-pdrs near the west of the field and sent the **flank companies** of the 49th, two companies of Canadian Fencibles, and three companies of the 89th with one 6-pdr forward on his right flank near the river at one of the gullies. Mulcaster's gunboats lent support from the river. On his left flank, advancing, he placed his **light infantry**, three companies of the Voltigeurs with the warriors. There was a detachment of Dundas Militia present, but it was kept out of the action.

Boyd's brigades marched into the woods from the east: the Fourth Brigade was on the right in the woods opposite the British light infantry, and on its left was the First Brigade and, between it and the river, the Third Brigade. The main action began around 2:00 P.M., while Boyd's brigades struggled through the woods and were engaged by British light infantry.

The Americans came onto Crysler's field (with the Fourth Brigade passing through the woods) in confused order and as they attempted to deploy into line received a series of volleys from the British that prompted the First and Fourth Brigades to break and retreat to the woods; their officers struggled to regroup them and push them back into action. The British began to advance, but the Third Brigade moved forward, forcing the British right flank to withdraw and the main line to halt. This sort of seesaw action continued with heavy fighting as the British generally held their ground and the American units gradually gave way. A charge by the Second Light Dragoons and the arrival of the boat guard could not save the day, and around 4:30, Boyd ordered a withdrawal to the flotilla.

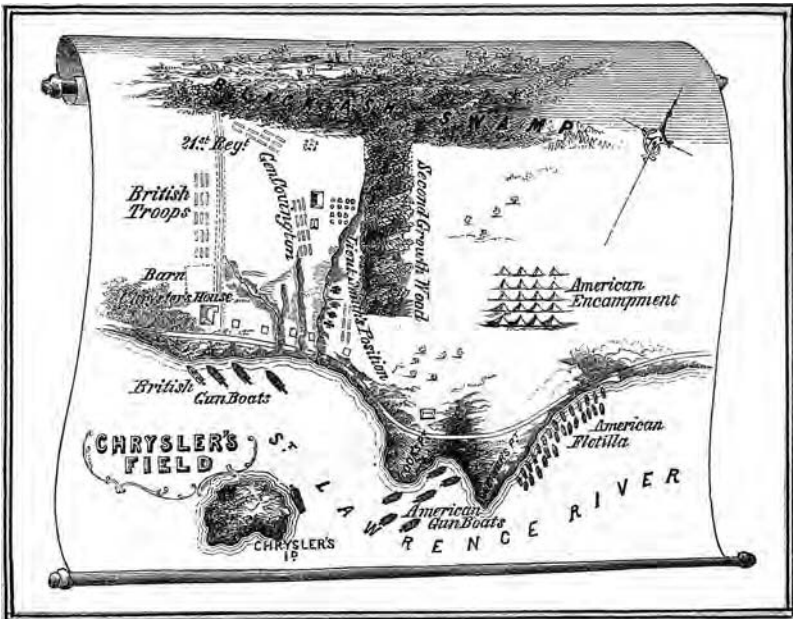
There was chaos at the flotilla, and Boyd only just managed to get his men embarked; they landed at a point on the American shore. Boyd left his dead and many wounded and a 6-pdr behind; the other guns he left with artillerists and dragoons to be hauled to Cornwall, which was successfully done. Wilkinson and Lewis had contributed nothing to the effort. Morrison did not pursue the Americans, choosing instead to hold his position and recuperate his force.

American casualties amounted to 102 killed, 237 wounded, and at

least 75 captured, although some estimates were higher; among the mortally wounded was Brigadier General Covington, who fell at the head of his brigade. Morrison put his losses at 22 killed, 148 wounded, and nine missing, although other evidence suggests the total exceeded 200. The outcome of this classic open-field battle was that it indisputably put an end to Wilkinson's dream of attacking **Montreal**.

CUMBERLAND ISLAND CAMPAIGN (January–March 1815).

Located at the mouth of the St. Marys River, the boundary between **Georgia** and **Florida**, Cumberland Island was occupied by British forces early in 1815. The plan for Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) included a diversionary expedition on the southeastern coast of the **United States**. It was thought that the expedition might link up with the army



The Battle of Chrysler's Farm, 11 November 1813. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C5566

moving against **New Orleans**, but when Cochrane made the plan, he did not yet know that help from the **Creek** nation was nullified by the outcome of the **Creek War** (1813–1814) and that American forces would effect the **capture of Pensacola, Florida** (7 November 1814), and remain in strength at **Mobile**.

Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** was given command of the Cumberland Island campaign, but bad weather and other factors prevented him from reaching this place in HMS *Albion* until about 17 January 1815. By this time, most of his force had occupied Cumberland Island (10 January), captured the fort on the south bank of the mouth of the St. Marys River (12 January), and seized the town of St. Marys across the river late on 13 January. Captain Philip Somerville in HMS *Rota* was the senior officer present, commanding the 74-gun **Dragon**, Captain **Robert Barrie**, and four **frigates**, three transports, and five smaller warships. From **Chesapeake Bay** and the Bahamas, they had brought the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Battalions of **Royal Marines** (considerably depleted by casualties and illness) with some **Royal Marine Artillery** and two **companies** of the **2nd West Indies Regiment**. It was Barrie who led the force that took St. Marys after a brief skirmish with a company each of the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** and the **Forty-third U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, all under Major Abraham Massias; a body of **Georgia Militia** had been mustered but did not join the action. The British had one killed and three wounded, while Massias reported one dead, four wounded, and nine missing.

Cockburn's intention had been to make his first attack on either Savannah, Georgia, or Charleston, **South Carolina**, but with the element of surprise lost, he contented himself with detaching some of the warships to closely **blockade** those places. He then began shipping large quantities of merchandise from St. Marys, seizing **merchantmen**, and fortifying his island base. American newspapers carried captured letters of **RN** officers who detailed how they had ransacked St. Marys and reported the invocation of martial law in Savannah, with Major General Thomas Pinckney (commanding the Sixth **Military District**) mobilizing the Georgia and **South Carolina Militias**. Also reported was the ambush on 24 February of five British boats on the St. Marys River by 20 Georgia Militia and 30 "Patriots of **Florida**," resulting in 100 to 160 British casualties; no British mention of the incident has come to light.

Cockburn stopped the American shipment of goods along the sea-board and overland to the Gulf of Mexico by sending detachments to capture, occupy, and patrol islands along the coast, including Amelia Island, Florida. This angered Spanish officials, as did the fact that nearly 2,000 slaves fled from Florida (as well as from the states) to the British, but Cockburn would not relent.

News of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) first reached Cockburn on 27 February, but it was not until 18 March that he embarked the last of his troops and headed for Bermuda.

CURTAIN. This is the part of a **fortification** that joins the **flank** of one **bastion** to the flank of the next.

CUTLASS. *See* SWORD.

CUTTER. Cutters were small but fast, single-masted sailing vessels, carrying square and fore-and-aft sails and were sometimes confused with **sloop-rigged** vessels. Revenue boats were so rigged to ensure their speed in pursuing smugglers.

CUYAHOGA PACKET, CAPTURE OF THE. (2 July 1812). When Brigadier General **William Hull** reached the lower **Maumee River** on 1 July while marching toward **Detroit**, he hired two small vessels to carry convalescents, surgeons, and others to Detroit. All his private and administrative papers were put on board the merchant **schooner** *Cuyahoga Packet*. Unaware that war had been declared, this vessel sailed up the **Detroit River** past **Fort Amherstburg, UC**, where a boat with armed men under Lieutenant Charles Rolette of the **PM** schooner *General Hunter* stopped the Americans and took possession of their vessel and belongings. Hull's papers revealed valuable information about the size, strength, and nature of the **Army of the Northwest**.

CYANE (RN). Under Captain **Gordon Falcon**, the *Cyane* cruised out of Jamaica through the war and was captured by the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, on 20 February 1815, 200 miles northeast of Madeira. The Americans sailed the *Cyane* to **New York**

City, where the USN bought it and put it into active service. It was broken up in 1836.

Type: 22-gun **sixth-rate**. Launch: 1806, Lymington, UK. Actual armament: (1812) 22 9-pdr lg, two 6-pdr lg, eight 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 118' gd × 32' × 10' 6" dh, 537 tons. Crew: 155.

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DACRES, JAMES RICHARD (1788–1853). Dacres was the son of an **admiral** and entered the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1796. He was a **midshipman** by 1800 and became a **lieutenant** four years later. In 1805, while flag lieutenant to his father, young Dacres was promoted to **commander** of HM Sloop *Elk*, the next year being posted to HMS *Bacchante*. He saw experience against the French in European waters and in the West Indies but was on **half pay** from 1807 until 1811, when he moved into HMS *Guerrière*, which was captured and destroyed by the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Isaac Hull**, on 9 August 1812 south of **Newfoundland**. Dacres was honorably acquitted in the subsequent **court-martial** and given a new command.

Following the war, he had two periods of **commissions**, was the commander in chief at the Cape of Good Hope in 1845, and rose to **vice admiral** in 1848.

DARTMOOR PRISON. Built in 1806 as a depot for prisoners of war, Dartmoor stood on a rise of land in the southwest of England near Plymouth and was subject to much inclement weather. It could accommodate up to 10,000 men in seven two-story buildings with an 18-foot-high stone wall guarded by up to 2,000 soldiers. More than 6,550 Americans were sent there during the war, the majority of them taken off **privateers**, **letters of marque**, and **merchantmen**. Once there, little chance existed for **exchange** or release on **parole** since the U.S. government was reluctant to finance their transportation and the British wanted to prevent the seamen from seeking employment afloat again. As part of the large bureaucracy that Britain had developed to handle prisoners during the **Napoleonic Wars** (1803–1815), the prison was well administered, and the prisoners also took steps to

organize themselves. But there were many privations, and the American agent for prisoners in England, Reuben Beasley, whose options for reducing the prisoners' miseries were limited, showed little concern for their situation. Many hundreds of Americans died while in captivity.

The best-known event in the Dartmoor saga occurred late on 6 April 1815, when guards abruptly rushed to the main yard, where they were ordered to fire on prisoners alleged to be attempting escape. A melee ensued in which seven Americans were killed and up to 60 wounded, some fatally. An official inquest concluded this had been an act of "justifiable homicide." Public outrage at the apparent massacre of unarmed prisoners prompted the British government into action, and, rather than wait for the **United States** to send **ships**, it began transporting the prisoners home. Some, however, were not freed until the summer.

DE MEURON'S REGIMENT (British army). Originally raised in Switzerland in 1781, this **regiment** transferred to the British army in 1795. It served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and left Malta in 1813 to go to **Quebec**, where it arrived in August. It remained in **LC** and in 1814 was involved in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

DE WATTEVILLE, LOUIS. *See* WATTEVILLE, LOUIS DE (1776–1836).

DE WATTEVILLE'S REGIMENT (British army). This **regiment**, first raised in 1801, was one of the "foreign" regiments in the **British army** and was officered primarily by Swiss. It served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and left Spain for **Quebec**, where it arrived in June 1813. It marched to **UC**, where the **flank companies** advanced to the **Niagara Peninsula** during the summer and participated in the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October) while the rest of the regiment stayed at **Kingston** and posts on the upper **St. Lawrence River**. The flank companies were taken prisoner during Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's capture of a troop convoy** (6 October 1813).

Elements of the regiment were present during other actions, in-

cluding, in 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were Joseph Mermet, **Victor Fischer**, and **Friedrich Zehender**.

DEARBORN, FORT. Built in 1803 and named for the then–secretary of war, **Henry Dearborn**, this small **stockaded** outpost was located near the village of Chicago at the southern end of **Lake Michigan**. At the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), it was **garrisoned** by Captain **Nathan Heald** and 54 officers and men of the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. Native forces destroyed it in August 1812.

DEARBORN, FORT, MASSACRE AT (15 August 1812). When Brigadier General **William Hull** received word that the British had captured **Fort Mackinac** (17 July 1812), he ordered Captain **Nathan Heald** to abandon **Fort Dearborn** and withdraw to **Fort Wayne**. Though Fort Dearborn was well supplied, Heald followed this order, distributed his surplus goods to the aboriginal nations in the vicinity, and set out on 15 August to march for Fort Wayne. At first his column, consisting of 55 officers and men of the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, some militia, their dependents, and other civilians, was accompanied by a party of **Miami** warriors under Captain William Wells from Fort Wayne. But the Miamis suddenly left, and about 500 natives, mainly of the **Potawatomi** nation (with some **Menominee**), under their chiefs **Blackbird** and **Mad Sturgeon** (lately advised to attack by **Main Poc**), attacked the column, killing (scalping and mutilating) more than 50 of the soldiers and citizens, including some who had been wounded. This incident became known as the “Chicago Massacre.” A second Potawatomi chief, **Black Partridge**, arrived and protected the survivors, most of whom were eventually returned to safety after suffering many hardships.

DEARBORN, HENRY (1751–1829). Dearborn was born at Hampton, **New Hampshire**, and was educated to be a physician. He was active throughout the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and ended up as a **major** on George Washington’s staff. He rose to **major**

general in the **militia** of **Massachusetts**, which he also served in the House of Representatives in the mid-1790s. Under President **Thomas Jefferson**, Dearborn was the secretary of war and was responsible for the organization of the **U.S. Army** during Jefferson's administrations. In 1809, he moved to Boston, where he became the port collector.

In January 1812, President **James Madison** appointed Dearborn a **major general** in the **U.S. Army** and its senior officer with command of the northern frontier from the **Niagara River** to the New England coast. His plan to send armies to attack the British at **Detroit** and the **St. Lawrence River** while a third army on the **Niagara River** diverted British forces became the campaign strategy for 1812. It failed miserably. Apart from the poorly prepared state of the army and a lack of skilled field officers, the fault lay on Dearborn's shoulders. He showed neither energy nor commitment in supporting Brigadier General **William Hull** by creating an effective diversion on the Niagara River, mainly because he left his headquarters at **Greenbush, New York**, in May to settle the **militia** mobilization problem in New England and did not return until late July. In addition, he did not use this time to properly organize the force intended to invade **LC** near the St. Lawrence River. Dearborn sent numerous reinforcements to each place, but he did not formulate a decisive plan of action and did not go into the field himself until November. The defeat at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October) and the fiasco of the invasion of **LC**, which ended at the **first battle at Lacolle, LC** (20 November), were attributable in part to his poor leadership.

Nevertheless, Dearborn remained in command and with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** created the plan to attack **York, UC**, in the spring of 1813 rather than some point on the upper St. Lawrence River as they had originally intended. The **battle of York** (27 April 1813) was an American victory marred by heavy losses and the failure to capture Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe's** force there. Dearborn gave command of the attack to Brigadier General **Zebulon Pike** (who was killed) and participated briefly in surrender negotiations. Similarly, at the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), he gave active command to then-Brigadier General **Morgan Lewis** and only observed the action. Plagued by illness, Dearborn was finally ordered

on 6 July by Madison to leave the field until he could recover his health.

Dearborn spent the rest of the war in command of the defenses of **New York City**. He received an honorable discharge from the army in 1815. He was made the minister to Portugal for two years in 1822, after which he retired from public service.

DECATUR, STEPHEN (1779–1820). Decatur was born in **Philadelphia** and went to sea at an early age in his father's **merchantman**. He entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1798, rose to **lieutenant** the next year, and served in the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805), during which he had several commands and succeeded in destroying the captive USS *Philadelphia* at **Tripoli** on 16 February 1804. For this action, he was promoted directly to **captain**. Having become one of the senior officers in the USN by 1812, Decatur took command of the USS *United States* and was made **commodore** of the southern division of the USN, stationed at **Norfolk, Virginia**.

On the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), he brought his division of warships to join Commodore **John Rodgers** on a cruise that lasted until the end of August with a return to Boston. Decatur sailed from Boston in the *United States* in October 1812, and on 25 October, the **battle of the United States vs. HMS Macedonian**, Captain **John Carden**, took place 500 miles west of the Canary Islands. After a hard-fought action lasting about an hour, the *Macedonian* struck its **colors**. Congress voted Decatur a gold medal in honor of his victory, and he became a national hero. He did not make another cruise until 1815, when he attempted to evade the British blockade at **New York City** in the USS *President* (1800) but was captured on 15 January by a British **squadron** led by HMS *Majestic*, Captain **John Hayes**. In the subsequent **court-martial**, Decatur was absolved of blame for the loss of the *President* and continued to enjoy his high status in the USN.

A long-simmering conflict with **James Barron**, fanned by the actions of **Jesse Elliott** and **William Bainbridge**, resulted in a duel near **Washington** on 22 March 1820 during which Barron fatally wounded Decatur. The premature death of this popular hero came as a shock to the American society, and he was universally mourned.



*Henry Dearborn, 1751–1829. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C010925*

DECLARATION OF WAR, AMERICAN (18 June 1812). After the 12th U.S. Congress had dealt with war preparations for six months, President **James Madison** presented a secret message to the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate on 1 June 1812 in which he called for war against Britain. His message reviewed the unresolved issues, namely, Britain's continued **impressment** of American sailors and its interference with American trade through its **orders in council**. He explained that the **Restrictive System** had not forced Britain to change its ways and that diplomatic negotiations had also been unsuccessful.

The committee on foreign relations under John C. Calhoun took the message and turned it into a **war bill** that was reported on 3 June to the House, where it was debated in secret. Debate continued on 4 June and resulted in the passage of the bill that day (despite the efforts of John Randolph to have the vote delayed until the following October) by a majority of 79 to 49, with 12 members not voting.

The Senate sent Madison's message to committee on 1 June, kept the matter secret, received the War Bill from the House on 5 June, and began debating it on 9 June. The debate continued in secret with minor amendments until 18 June, when it passed with a majority of 19 to 13, with two members not voting. Madison signed it into law that day.

The vote for war represented less than a two-thirds majority and reflected political and regional differences: states in the South and in the Mississippi valley were largely supportive, and middle and northern states, with the exception of **Pennsylvania**, **Vermont**, and **New Hampshire**, mainly opposed.

DELAWARE (Aboriginal National). In 1812, settlements of the Delaware nation stood along the White River, northeast of modern-day Indianapolis, Indiana. Another group lived on the **Thames River** near **Moraviantown, UC**. They spoke **Munsee** and were often referred to by this term. Although the majority of the Delaware maintained neutrality through the war, warriors, apparently from both groups, joined the British and were present in 1813 at **Frenchtown** (22 January) and **Moraviantown** (5 October), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and the **raid at Black Rock**

and Buffalo (30 December). In 1814, some warriors were probably at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

Representatives from Delaware tribes signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) to ally themselves with the U.S. government and the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815) with American officials to formally end hostilities.

DELAWARE (State). Delaware was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Dover. In 1810, its population was about 73,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—0 for, one against; U.S. Senate—0 for, two against. During the war years, its governors were Joseph Haslat (**Republican**, 1811–1814) and Daniel Rodney (**Federalist**, 1814–1817).

DELAWARE FLOTILLA. Although there were more than a dozen **gunboats** available at Philadelphia and elsewhere on the **Delaware River** from the beginning of the war, it was not until late March 1813 that they became active when Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** gave command of the Delaware flotilla to Master Commandant **James Biddle**. He was to man 10 of the best boats with 35 officers and men each. It is likely that each boat carried a single 32-pdr **long gun** (lg) and a 4- or 6-pdr lg mounted on the midline and measured 60 feet (length of the gun deck) by 16 feet, 6 inches (breadth) by 6 feet, 6 inches (depth of the hold). Jones ordered the **cutters** *Buffalo* (four 18-pdr lg, one 6-pdr lg) and *Camel* (2 18-pdr lg, 1 4-pdr lg, two 24-pdr **carronades**) fitted out as **blockships** and added to the flotilla in April. On Biddle's assignment to the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* at the end of April, Lieutenant **Samuel Angus** took over and patrolled the river and bay. Promoted to **master commandant** in June, he made the unsuccessful **assault on HM Sloop Martin** (29 July 1813) and lost one of the gunboats. This appears to be the only engagement in these waters during the war.

DELAWARE MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1810, there were 7,500 officers and men on the rolls of the **Delaware Militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for **militia** mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 1,000. Detachments were mobilized from time to time, but none appear to have seen any action.

DELAWARE RIVER. The Delaware River forms a large bay at its mouth, bounded by **Delaware** and **New Jersey**, and provides access to Philadelphia and other key eastern seaboard ports. It drains into the Atlantic Ocean about 110 miles south of **New York City**. Cape May is on the northern lip of the bay (New Jersey), and Cape Henlopen is to the south (Delaware).

DELAWARE, UC. This British village was located on the **Thames River** about 34 miles east of **Moraviantown** and several miles south of modern-day London, Ontario. During the war, it was a British outpost.

DENNIS, JAMES (British army) (?–1855). Dennis entered the army as an **ensign** in the **49th Regiment of Foot** in 1796 and was a **captain** when he commanded a 450-man force at **Queenston** during the opening phase of the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812). For his efforts in that battle, during which he was wounded, Dennis was **brevetted** a **major**. A painting of the battle, attributed to Dennis, has been widely published in various printed versions.

In 1813, he saw action at the **battles of Fort George** (27 May) and **Stoney Creek** (6 June), where he was wounded again. In the fall of 1813, Dennis commanded the post at **Cornwall**. Hearing that the **division** under Major General **James Wilkinson** was approaching that place, he made arrangements for the removal of its military stores and then held off the American advance at the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** (10 November) while the stores were removed; Dennis was not present at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

Following the war, Dennis remained in the army, was made a **KCB** in 1844, and ultimately rose to the rank of **major general**.

DESERONTO. *See* TYENDINAGA.

DETROIT (1812) (PM). *See* ADAMS (1801) (U.S. Army).

DETROIT (1813) (RN). The vessel was part of Commander **Robert Barclay's** **squadron** captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was sunk for preservation at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in

1815; raised and used as a **merchantman** in 1835; and wrecked in an attempt to send it over Niagara Falls in 1841.

Type: 20-gun **sixth-rate ship-sloop**. Launch: 1813, **Amherstburg, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) two 24-pdr lg, one 18-pdr lg, six 12-pdr lg, eight 9-pdr lg, one 24-pdr crde, one 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 96' 2" ud × 26' × 11' 1" dh, 300 tons. Crew: 156.

DETROIT, CAPTURE OF (16 August 1812). The final stage of Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** came with the fall of Detroit on 16 August 1812. He had begun a withdrawal of his invading force from the British side of the Detroit River on 7 August and completed it on 12 August. In the meantime, actions at **Brownstown** (5 August) and **Maguaga** (9 August) cut his supply line to **Frenchtown, Michigan**. On 13 August, Hull sent 400 militia and volunteers under Colonels **Lewis Cass** and **Duncan McArthur** to reestablish the supply line.

Major General **Isaac Brock** arrived at **Fort Amherstburg** on 14 August with **regular, militia**, and native reinforcements from the **Niagara Peninsula** and the area of the **Grand River**. The next day, he offered Hull a chance to surrender, which was refused. The British then began to bombard Detroit from **batteries** at **Sandwich** and on board the **PM** vessels *Queen Charlotte* and *General Hunter*. Late on 15 August, **Tecumseh** crossed the Detroit River with about 600 warriors (mainly **Menominee, Ojibwa, Potawatomi, and Wyandot**), and early the next morning Brock crossed with about 330 regulars (**1/41st Regiment of Foot, Royal Newfoundland Fencibles, and Royal Regiment of Artillery**) and 400 militia (men from 11 different **units**), some of them dressed in cast-off uniforms of the **regular regiments**. As the British bombardment continued, Brock paraded his force in preparation to attack.

Although the town was protected by a **palisade** and **Fort Detroit** was heavily armed and well supplied, Hull lost his nerve and decided to surrender, much to the dismay of his officers and men. The British took possession of the town, a large supply of munitions, and 2,400 prisoners. They **paroled** the militia from **Ohio** and **Michigan** and sent the U.S. regulars to **Quebec** as **prisoners of war**.

DETROIT, FORT. This **fortification** was situated on a rise of ground behind the town of **Detroit** near the site of Fort Pontchartrain built



*Isaac Brock Accepts William Hull's Surrender at Detroit, 16 August 1812.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C16404*

by the French beginning in 1701. The British captured Pontchartrain in 1760 and used it until 1779, when they built Fort Lernoult. When Detroit became an American possession in 1796, as per the **Jay Treaty**, the fort was renamed Fort Detroit. In 1812, it was a four-sided structure with a **bastion** in each corner enclosing **barracks** and storehouses on about two acres of land. Its **parapets** were thick and tall and surrounded by a dry ditch and armed with 26 guns. When American forces reoccupied the fort late in 1813, they renamed it Fort Shelby.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN. Originally the site of a French post from 1701, Detroit is located 22 miles from the mouth of the **Detroit River**. In 1812, it had a population of about 1,700 people and stood opposite **Sandwich, UC**.

DETROIT RIVER. This river flows for about 25 miles south from **Lake St. Clair** to **Lake Erie** and in 1812 formed the boundary between **Michigan Territory** and **UC**. **Detroit, Sandwich, Fort Amherstburg**, and **Amherstburg** were situated on its banks.

DICKINSON, JAMES (1785–1815). The record shows that Dickinson passed his **lieutenancy** examination in 1805 and two years later gained a **commission** in that rank. Promoted to **commander** in 1811, Dickinson commanded HM Sloop *Penguin*, when it met the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Master Commandant **James Biddle**, off Tristan de Cunha on 23 March 1815. Dickinson was killed in this action, which resulted in the capture and destruction of the *Penguin*.

DICKSON, ALEXANDER (1777–1840). Born in England, this officer entered the **Royal Military Academy** in 1793 and graduated as a second **lieutenant** in the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**. By 1812, he had been **breveted** to **lieutenant colonel** and was serving under the **Duke of Wellington** in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), where he had received many accolades for his competence and bravery.

In 1814, Dickson was sent to join Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and

the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). The lack of proper **siege** weapons and the problems involved in establishing serviceable **batteries** on the muddy plain below **New Orleans** strained Dickson's resources to the limit and helped contribute to the British defeat. After the withdrawal of the force from New Orleans, Dickson was present during the bloodless **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

Dickson returned to England and fought at the battle of Waterloo (18 June 1815), after which he continued in the army, rising to the rank of **major general** in 1837. He was knighted three times, the final honor being the **GCB**.

DICKSON, ROBERT (ca. 1765–1823). A Scot by birth, Dickson arrived in Canada in the 1780s and became deeply involved in the fur trade and earned much influence among the aboriginal peoples in the **Old Northwest** who referred to him as “the Red Head.” Convinced that American expansion was damaging his profits in the fur trade, Dickson was a fervent supporter of the British and after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812) led large numbers of natives to the British post at **St. Joseph Island**. He commanded about 400 warriors in Captain **Charles Roberts**'s capture of **Fort Mackinac** on 17 July 1812. He encouraged the natives to support the British when Major General **Isaac Brock** captured **Detroit** on 16 August. Early the next year, Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** appointed Dickson the agent and superintendent of native allies in the west.

Dickson led a large party of natives to **Fort Amherstburg** early in 1813 and supported or was present at Major General **Henry Procter**'s **investment of Fort Meigs** (July) and **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August). The next year, he helped defend the British post at Michilimackinac against the failed American attack under Captain **Arthur Sinclair** and was present with a number of his warriors when Lieutenant **Miller Worsely** captured the U.S. Schooners ***Tigress*** and ***Scorpion*** (1813) on 3 and 6 September 1814, respectively. Following the war, he returned to active involvement in the fur trade.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA. This federal district was created in 1800 around **Washington**. In 1810, its population was about 15,000. During the war years, its mayors (presidential appointees) were Robert

Brent (1802–1812), Daniel Rapine (1812–1813), and James H. Blake (1813–1817).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MILITIA. In 1812, there were 2,300 officers and men in the **militia** divided into two **legions**. In 1813, the militia was reorganized into two **brigades**, one with two **regiments** of **infantry** and the second with one regiment each of infantry and **cavalry**. Some of them participated in the fighting at the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August 1814), joined Captain **Oliver Perry** to man a **battery**, and tried (unsuccessfully) to stop Captain James **Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September 1814).

DIVISION. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

DOBBS, ALEXANDER (1784–1828). Born in Dublin, Dobbs entered the RN as a **midshipman** in 1797 and gained his **lieutenant's commission** in 1804. He saw nearly continuous action against the French, including a term in HMS *Confiance* (1796) under Captain **James Yeo**. He accompanied Yeo to Canada in the spring of 1813 and in May was made an acting **commander** in HM Sloop *Earl of Moira*. Dobbs was present during all the encounters between **Yeo's squadron** and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** during that summer and fall, including the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the “**Burlington Races**” (28 September).

Continuing in the *Moira* (renamed *Charwell*) in 1814, Dobbs was present at the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May) and was sent in July as senior officer in charge of the *Charwell*, *Star*, *Netley*, and *Magnet*, running men and munitions from **Kingston** and **York** to **Niagara**. In August, Chauncey appeared off Niagara and left vessels there to keep Dobbs **blockaded**. Dobbs worked in coordination with the Right Division of the **British army** under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** and was prepared to attack USN vessels at **Fort Erie** during the intended raid at **Black Rock** and **Buffalo**, which failed because of the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August). He had his gig (a ship's boat) carried overland from the lower **Niagara River** to **Chippawa Creek**, and on 12 August, he and a party of 75 RN officers and seaman transported the gig and five **bateaux** to **Lake Erie** west of Fort Erie and, that night, executed the **capture of the U.S.**

Schooners *Ohio* and *Somers*. He led 90 seamen and 50 **Royal Marines** in Drummond's failed **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), during which he was wounded. He finished his service on the lakes in command of HM Sloop *Star*.

Dobbs remained in the RN after the war. He was promoted to **post captain** in 1819 and made a **CB** (date uncertain), ending his days at Milan, Italy.

DOLPHIN (American Privateer). This was one of 15 vessels (11 of which were **privateers**) owned by the firm of John Hollins and Michael McBlair and their partners of **Baltimore**. The owners obtained a license for it as a **privateer** late in June 1812 at Baltimore. A speedy **schooner**, it captured four schooners and a **ship**, all **merchantsmen**, earning \$54,000 during one cruise, and, after another, a single share paid to crew members was worth \$158.71. It was taken by the British as one of the **Rappahannock River prizes** (3 April 1813), at which time it mounted 12 guns and had a 98-man crew.

“DON'T GIVE UP THE SHIP.” Captain **James Lawrence** is reputed to have uttered this command on board the USS *Chesapeake* during its losing battle with HMS *Shannon* (1806) on 1 June 1813. Lawrence was being taken below for medical treatment at the time; he later succumbed to his wounds. Lawrence's friend Master Commandant **Oliver Perry** adopted the phrase as his motto while in command of the USN **squadron** on **Lake Erie** that summer. It was printed on a burgee, a swallowtailed flag he flew on his flagship, the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence*. When the *Lawrence* was seriously damaged during the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Perry took the flag with him when he left his vessel and took command of the U.S. Sloop *Niagara* (1813), in which he won the day. When Perry's fame soared after his victory, his motto became a USN tradition and a common expression of determination.

DOUGLAS, GEORGE (1788–1838). Douglas entered the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1801 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807 in the **frigate *Horatio***. After that **ship** captured a French frigate in 1809, during which action Douglas took command when his **captain** was wounded, Douglas was promoted to **commander**. He achieved **post**

rank in 1812 and had HMS *Levant* in 1814, when it was captured along with HMS *Cyane* by the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, off Madeira on 20 February 1815. Douglas was honorably acquitted in the subsequent **court-martial** at **Halifax**, but the record shows that he remained on **half pay** through the 1820s.

DOWNIE, GEORGE (?–1814). Little is known about the **RN captain** who lost the naval **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). He was born in Ireland and joined the RN in the 1790s. He passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1801 and was promoted to that rank the next year. In 1808, Downie became a **commander** and held a **commission** in HM Sloop *Royalist* on station in the English Channel during which he gained some notice.

Downie was promoted to **post captain** on 1 January 1814 and sent to Canada at the head of about 900 RN officers and men to join Commodore **Sir James Yeo**. The detachment arrived in June, and Downie took command of HMS *Montreal* at **Kingston, UC**. In August, Yeo abruptly sent Downie to take over command of the RN station at **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, replacing Captain **Peter Fisher** in circumstances that became the **Yeo–Fisher controversy**. Downie arrived at Isle-aux-Noix on 1 September and officially took command two days later. His small **squadron** was in the **Richelieu River** ready for sail while his flagship, the *Confiance* (1814A), had just been launched and was hurriedly being readied for service. **Sir George Prevost** had begun his **Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and the Left Division of the army arrived at **Plattsburgh, New York**, on 6 September. Prevost wrote repeatedly to Downie to explain the role his squadron would play in an attack on the Americans. This correspondence took on an impatient tone and what was later interpreted as an insinuation that Downie was reluctant to fight.

With the *Confiance* inadequately equipped and crewed by a hodgepodge of volunteer seamen and soldiers, Downie sailed to join Prevost. He attacked Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron** at Plattsburgh on the morning of 11 September 1814. He laid out a clear plan to his officers, but a light and adverse wind slowed his approach and made the plan difficult to implement. Early in the action, Downie was wounded and died shortly after being taken below to the surgeon. The circumstances of the battle and Pre-

vost's correspondence with Downie became a contentious subject, and Yeo later charged that Prevost had goaded Downie into action, which led to the decision to hold a **court-martial** to examine the circumstances and Prevost's culpability.

George Downie was buried in the cemetery at Plattsburgh, where, some years later, his sister-in-law, Mary Downie, had a small monument raised over his grave.

DOWNIE'S SQUADRON. In June 1812, the British naval contingent on **Lake Champlain** consisted of one rotten **schooner** from the 1790s on the **Richelieu River** and a handful of **PM** personnel. **Sir George Prevost** ordered three **gunboats** to be brought up from Sorel, **LC**, over the rapids of the Richelieu River to **Isle-aux-Noix**, the advanced post.

In the spring of 1813, Prevost sent about 60 **PM** officers and men there and ordered the construction of three more gunboats in a dockyard newly opened at Isle-aux-Noix. Still the British were outgunned by Lieutenant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron**, which controlled the lake, until the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler (1812)** (3 June). The British repaired the **prizes** and renamed them **Shannon (1813)** and **Broke**, respectively, while forming plans on how to use them. This resulted in "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August), during which the Americans lost provisions, **merchantmen**, **barracks**, and storehouses from **Plattsburgh, New York**, northward.

In July, Commodore **Sir James Yeo** sent Commander **Daniel Pring** to assume command of the naval establishment at Isle-aux-Noix. He sailed near Plattsburgh on several occasions but was prevented from raiding by the presence of Macdonough's squadron in those waters from September and avoided an engagement against unequal odds. Having observed Macdonough's force, Pring petitioned Prevost for permission and manpower to build a heavily armed **brig**. Prevost was slow in granting approval, but the brig was built during the winter, along with five large gunboats, and ready for service by the first week of May 1814. The next week, Pring set out to retard Macdonough's progress at **Vergennes, Vermont**, by blocking the mouth of **Otter Creek** with sunken vessels, but the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May) led to the failure of this mission. He had added the four **prizes** from "Murray's Raid" to his squadron but be-

lieved more firepower was needed and succeeded in convincing Prevost to approve the building of HMS *Confiance* (1814A), a **fifth-rate** that was launched on 25 August.

A 900-man detachment of RN officers and seamen arrived at Kingston in June 1814. Yeo sent Captain **Peter Fisher** to command at Isle-aux-Noix; Pring remained there. Yeo disapproved of Fisher's handling of affairs and replaced him with another of the newly arrived officers, Captain **George Downie**. Downie arrived at Isle-aux-Noix on 1 September and took command of his squadron two days later. He was dismayed to see how poorly equipped the *Confiance* was and how weak in number his crews were. Prevost had already begun his **Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and made it very clear that he expected naval support. With considerable foreboding, Downie set sail to meet Macdonough on 8 September but had difficulty getting up the Richelieu to the lake.

The squadron that Downie took into the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September consisted of the *Confiance*, *Linnet*, *Chub* (formerly *Shannon*), *Finch* (formerly *Broke*), and 11 gunboats. He mounted 57 **long guns**, mainly 24- and 18-pdrs, and 33 **carronades**, the majority of them 18-pdrs. He had about 800 officers and men under his command. The *Confiance* had been hurriedly manned by drafts of seamen taken from transports on the **St. Lawrence River** and soldiers from the 1st Battalion of **Royal Marines**, the **Royal Marine Artillery**, **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and the **39th Regiment of Foot**. The other vessels had **marines**, **artillery**, and **infantry** in their crew, while the gunboats were manned by a few seamen, marines, and **LC Militia**. The first chance he had to command the force under sail was the day before the battle.

The squadron was badly shattered in the battle of Plattsburgh (11 September) and all captured except for the gunboats. Several weeks after the action, they sailed in company with the American squadron to an anchorage at Whitehall, New York, near the southern limit of the lake. They were laid up and eventually decayed.

DOYLE, FANNY. A popular story arising from the war is that an American woman, the wife of an artilleryman captured at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812), helped serve the American **artillery** in **Fort Niagara** when it exchanged fire with the British

guns in **Fort George** in November 1812. Mrs. Doyle's motivation, apparently, was to seek vengeance on the British whom she had petitioned in person after the battle for the release of her captured husband. The source of this story appears to be the journal kept by Lieutenant Colonel George McFeely of the **Twenty-second U.S. Regiment of Infantry** who detailed "Betsy" Doyle's participation in what McFeely described as "the most terrific cannonading I have ever seen." Further evidence to support the story is in the records of the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery**, a detachment of which was stationed at Fort Niagara, which show a Private Andrew Doyle on its rolls during this period.

DRAGON (RN). Captain **Robert Barrie** commanded this **ship of the line** during his long term of duty on the Atlantic seaboard. Placed on harbor service following the war, it was broken up in 1850.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1798, Rotherhithe, UK. Standard armament: 28 32-pdr lg, 28 18-pdr lg, four 12-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 178' gd × 48' 3" × 20' 6" dh, 1,815 tons. Crew: 640.

DRAGOON. A dragoon was a soldier, specially trained for action while mounted on a horse. Both nations had **regular** and **militia** dragoon units for reconnaissance, communications, pursuing an enemy, or covering a retreating force. On a few rare occasions, dragoons were involved in charges against enemy lines, but the nature of the terrain and the small numbers of the forces usually prohibited this.

DRUMMOND, GORDON (1772–1854). Drummond was born at **Quebec** but educated in Britain. He entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1789. He advanced to **major general** in 1805, having seen active service in the Netherlands (1794–1795) and Egypt (1801). Drummond was stationed at Quebec between 1808 and 1811 and was well acquainted with such officers as **Isaac Brock** and **Sir George Prevost**; he was promoted to **lieutenant general** in June 1811.

Drummond was stationed in Ireland in the summer of 1813, when he was ordered to Canada to command forces in **UC** and to administer the province's government. He officially took command during the first week of December, visited **Kingston, York**, and then arrived

at **St. Davids** on 16 December, five days after the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December). He ordered the **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December).

As government head, Drummond worked to obtain better public support in provisioning the army and, though frustrated in some of his efforts, stopped short of declaring martial law. He did not hesitate to have suspected traitors brought to trial and supported the convictions of the **Ancaster Assize** (May–June 1814). Drummond was generally pleased with the province's legislature, and it appears that he may have been viewed as a near equal to the popular Isaac Brock.

Drummond, along with Commodore **Sir James Yeo**, wanted to attack **Sackets Harbor** early in the spring of 1814, but Prevost vetoed this. As an alternative, Drummond and Yeo attacked **Oswego** on 5–6 May. When Major General **Jacob Brown**'s Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** invaded the **Niagara Peninsula** in July, Major General **Phineas Riall** held command of the British Right Division there. Following Riall's defeat at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July), Drummond moved from Kingston to York and gave orders to put the Right Division into a position to confront Brown. He arrived at **Niagara** on the morning of 25 July and in the late afternoon assumed command of the Right Division at Lundy's Lane near the falls of Niagara. That evening, the **battle of Lundy's Lane** was fought. Drummond deployed his force in an advantageous defensive position but failed to provide a cover of **skirmishers**, resulting in the capture of his **artillery** during the middle stages of the fighting. Although seriously wounded in the neck, Drummond retained command and tried three times to dislodge the Americans. The battle essentially ended in a stalemate with both forces retiring. Badly wounded and sick, Drummond did not push his exhausted and depleted force quickly to punish the Brown's force, which slowly withdrew to **Fort Erie**.

Drummond sent a force to attack **Black Rock** and **Buffalo** on 2 August in hopes of being able to cut off Brown's supply lines, but the expedition failed at the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August), resulting in the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September). By this point, some of the British (such as Lieutenant Colonel **Hercules**

Scott) were criticizing Drummond's management of the army. Drummond attempted to win the campaign with the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), but his plan for a multipronged attack in the middle of the night failed with tremendous casualties. When Brown launched the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September) against the British **siege** lines and **batteries**, Drummond was able to defend his positions successfully, but both sides suffered high casualties again. Drummond gave up the siege on 21 September and withdrew to **Chippawa**. He had joined Prevost in criticizing Yeo for not having made an adequate effort to supply the army using the larger **ships** in his **squadron**; Yeo finally arrived with reinforcements and stores late in October. The American division, now commanded by Major General **George Izard**, made a demonstration of force at Chippawa and fought the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October) but retreated across the Niagara early in November.

About the time that news of peace reached Canada, Drummond learned he was to replace Prevost, who was recalled to face a **court-martial** arising from the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). He remained as governor in chief until May 1816 and then returned to England. Drummond was made a **GCB** in 1817 and a full **general** in 1825, ending up as the senior general in the British army at the time of his death.

DRUMMOND, WILLIAM (1779–1814). A Scot by birth, Drummond entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1793. In 1795, he became a **lieutenant** in the **2nd West India Regiment** and served in the West Indies, seeing some action against the French. He purchased **commissions** as **captain** and then **major** in the **60th Regiment of Foot** in the West Indies and then transferred into the **New Brunswick Fencible Regiment** in 1809; this **unit** became the **104th Regiment of Foot** in 1810.

The 104th remained in **New Brunswick** through 1812, and then part of it marched to **Quebec** in the winter of 1813 and on to **Kingston, UC**. Drummond was **brevetted** to **lieutenant colonel** in May and commanded his **regiment** at the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May). He proved to be an effective officer, well liked by his men, but he was assigned to be the deputy **quartermaster general** at Kingston and did not go with his regiment to the **Niagara Peninsula**, where it



*Gordon Drummond, 1772–1854. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C7880*

was involved in the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). Stationed at **Gananoque** during the fall, he even missed the chance to participate in the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

In the spring of 1814, Drummond was sent to the Niagara Peninsula in command of the 104th, and in the days prior to the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), he served on the staff of Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**, scouting advance locations with **John Norton** (with whom he developed friendly relations) and Lieutenant **William Merritt**. He was present at the battle, where he showed cool leadership under fire. On 2 August, he brought his men to join Lieutenant Colonel **John Tucker**'s detachment and participated in the unsuccessful **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August). On 15 August, Drummond led the Center Column in Lieutenant General Drummond's **assault on Fort Erie**. While the assault was failing at both ends of the lengthy American **fortification**, Drummond's men managed, after heavy fighting and several attempts, to get into the north-east **bastion** of the fort. Here, Drummond, who had had a strong premonition of his death, was involved in hand-to-hand fighting and was shot and **bayoneted**. Many of his followers joined him in death shortly after when a **magazine** beneath the bastion blew up, putting an end to the general's poorly conceived attack.

Drummond died greatly admired by the officers and **rank and file** alike. He was personable and given to eccentricities, such as wearing beads given to him by Norton and carrying a shotgun into battle. American soldiers found his body and looted it. Documents Drummond carried were given to Major General **Edward Gaines**. Drummond's remains were buried with other fallen British soldiers in a mass grave at **Fort Erie**.

DUCHARME, DOMINIQUE (1765–1853). Ducharme lived near **Montreal** and was ordered by Sir John Johnson of the **British Indian Department** in May 1813 to take several hundred warriors from the **Seven Nations** settlements near Montreal to the **Niagara Peninsula**. He commanded them at the **battle of Beaver Dams** on 24 June 1813 but quickly returned with his men to Montreal when the British failed to reward them adequately following the victory. He served under Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry** and was present at the

battle of Chateauguay on 26 October 1813, receiving an award and clasp for his part in the victory.

DUKE OF GLOUCESTER (PM/USN). Built by the **PM**, this vessel was lying dismantled at **York, UC**, on 27 April 1813, when it was captured by the Americans during the **battle of York** (27 April 1813). The **USN** purchased it, renamed it the *York*, and used it as an ammunition hulk at **Sackett Harbor**. **Melancthon Woolsey** bought it and renamed it the *Eckford* in 1816.

Type: 6-gun schooner. Launch: 1807, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1812) six 6-pdr lg. Dimensions: 67' bp × 18' × 10' 3" dh, 109 tons. Crew: 20.

DUKE OF YORK (1763–1827). Frederick Augustus, the second son of **King George III**, was the Duke of York and was appointed commander in chief of the **British army** in 1795. Although he did not distinguish himself during the several campaigns in which he was involved, the duke did use his power to implement a wide range of improvements in the organization and procedures of the army. He resigned in the wake of a scandal involving the duplicity of his mistress in 1809 but regained the post in 1811 and held it until his death.

DUNDAS COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Dundas County was located around Morrisburg in the Eastern District of **UC**. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, elements of which participated in the **attack on Ogdensburg** (February 1813) and in pestering the Americans during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813), and some were on hand at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

DURHAM COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Durham County was located west of Lake Simcoe and was part of the Newcastle District of **UC**. A **flank company** was formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812. One company was at the battle of **York** (27 April 1813).

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EAGLE (1812) (USN). The **USN** purchased this vessel on **Lake Champlain** late in 1812. The British captured it on 3 June 1813 and

renamed it the *Shannon* (1813) and then the *Chub*. It was part of Captain **George Downie's** squadron captured at the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). It was sold in 1815.

Type: 11-gun sloop. Launch: ?, Lake Champlain as merchantman *Bull Dog*. Actual armament: (1813) one 18-pdr lg, six 6-pdr lg; (1814) three 6-pdr lg, eight 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 64' bp × 20' 4" × 5' 8" dh, 110 tons. Crew: 41.

***EAGLE* (1812) AND *GROWLER* (1812), CAPTURE OF (3 June 1813).** Lieutenant **Sidney Smith, USN**, was on a patrol with the U.S. Sloops *Eagle* (1812) and *Growler* (1812) to prohibit smuggling on **Lake Champlain** on 2 June 1813, when he decided to sail down the **Richelieu River** to inspect British defenses. To his USN crews he had added a party of about 40 volunteer **New Hampshire** and **Maine Militia** under Captain Oliver Herrick. His pilots warned him about the difficult currents and adverse winds that might make his return difficult, but Smith proceeded and shortly after dawn found himself engaged by a British force.

Major **George Taylor** commanded at **Isle-aux-Noix**, and when he heard of Smith's advance, he sent three gunboats manned by elements of the **100th Regiment of Foot**, the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and the **PM** to engage the Americans. He also went in bateaux with more of his 100th Foot and artillery to land on the banks of the river. The action lasted for three hours with a hot exchange of **artillery** and **musket** fire. Taylor received news that a 3,000-man enemy force was rapidly approaching by land, and he returned to Isle-aux-Noix to prepare for the attack. This news was false, and in his absence the effect of the British fire cut up the rigging of the **sloops**, and a 24-pdr shot from one of the gunboats pierced the *Eagle's* hull, causing it to sink in shallow water, after which Smith surrendered.

The Americans lost one dead, eight wounded, and 91 taken prisoner, while Taylor reported only three men wounded. The significant catches of the day were the two sloops, which the British renamed the *Shannon* (1813) and the *Broke* and were soon pressed into service against depots on the Lake Champlain shore.

***EAGLE* (1813).** As with the use of **torpedoes**, the motivation for conversion of the schooner *Eagle* (1813) into an "explosion vessel"



*Capture of the U.S. Sloops Growler and Eagle, 3 June 1813.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C40572*

may have been “an Act to encourage the destruction of armed vessels of war of the enemy” passed on 3 March 1813 by the **U.S. Congress**, which promised half the estimated value of any British warship to anyone who could destroy it. A **New York City** merchant named John Scudder Jr. devised the scheme of loading 400 pounds of gunpowder and combustibles beneath the ballast of the *Eagle* and rigging a hidden device to detonate it. Scudder was assisted in his preparations by Master Commandant Jacob Lewis, **USN**.

With a crew under a Captain Riker, the *Eagle* sailed off the Thames River, **Connecticut**, on 25 June. When it came within sight of HMS *Ramillies*, Captain **Sir Thomas Hardy**, its target, Hardy sent a boat under Master’s Mate William McIntyre in pursuit. Instead of running the schooner ashore and then defending it with **musketry**, the normal procedure, the crew anchored it in deep water and then went on land. As the British boarded the schooner, the crew fired on them, prompting McIntyre to cut the anchor cable and flee. The boat party sailed the schooner back toward the *Ramillies*, where **prizes** were usually brought alongside and unloaded, at which point the

Americans expected the crew of the 74-gun **ship of the line** would unwittingly detonate the lethal charge.

Wind and current prevented McIntyre from coming alongside the *Ramillies*, and Hardy sent a relief party to take over the schooner and secure it to a recently prized **sloop**. About 2:30 P.M., the schooner was destroyed in a massive explosion. A **lieutenant** and 10 seamen were killed and three others injured. The *Ramillies* was unharmed, but the British were incensed with what they considered an “unfair and Cowardly mode of Warfare.” Admiral **Sir John Warren** subsequently issued an order that all prizes were to be thoroughly examined before being hauled alongside any warship. Scudder and company did not apparently profit from their endeavor.

EAGLE (1814) (USN). Renamed shortly after its launch, this vessel was in Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough’s squadron** at the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). It was laid up in 1815 and left to decay.

Type: 20-gun **brig**. Launch: 1814, **Vergennes, Vermont**, as the *Surprise*. Actual armament: eight 18-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 117' 3" bp × 34' 9" × 7' 3" dh, 550 tons. Crew: 142.

EARL, HUGH (1765–1841). A Scot by birth, Earl served briefly in the **RN** before settling in Canada and joining the **PM** in the 1790s. In 1812, he was advanced to the rank of **master and commander** and was the senior officer of the **PM squadron** on **Lake Ontario**. He commanded that force on its aborted attack on **Sackets Harbor** on 19 July 1812 and when Commodore **Isaac Chauncey’s squadron** chased the *Royal George* into **Kingston** on 10 November 1812. Earl was superseded by Commander **Robert Barclay, RN**, when he arrived at Kingston in April 1813. Earl then left the service afloat.

EARL OF MOIRA (PM/RN). Built by the **PM**, this vessel became part of Commodore **Sir James Yeo’s squadron** on **Lake Ontario** and participated in numerous actions in 1813 and 1814. In 1814, it was renamed the *Charwell*; it was laid up in 1817 and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 16-gun **brig**. Launch: 1805, **Kingston, UC**, as a **ship**. Ac-

tual armament: (1813) two 9-pdr lg, 14 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 70' 6" gd × 23' 8" × 7' dh, 168 tons. Crew: 92.

EASTPORT, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

ECKFORD, HENRY (1775–1832). Naval architect and shipbuilder. Eckford was born in Scotland and went to Canada around 1791 to work in the shipyards at **Quebec**. He moved to **New York City**, where he eventually established his own shipyard. In 1808–1809, he built the U.S. Brig *Oneida* at **Oswego, New York**, for the **USN**, and when war broke out, he went with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** to **Sackets Harbor**, where for the rest of the war he built warships for the **Lake Ontario squadron**, including the *Madison*, *Lady of the Lake*, *General Pike*, *Sylph*, *Jones (1814B)*, *Jefferson*, *Superior*, *Mohawk*, and *New Orleans*. Eckford continued to build for the **USN** until 1820, after which he returned to private enterprise. He died in Constantinople while under contract to construct warships for the sultan of Turkey.

EIGHTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **North Carolina**, **South Carolina**, and **Georgia**, but the regiment does not appear to have participated in any actions during the war.

8TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in England in 1685, this **unit** became known as the King's Regiment. The 1/8th arrived at **Quebec** in May 1809 and was sent to **UC** in the autumn of 1812.

Elements of the 1/8th were involved in the following actions: 1813, **Ogdensburg** (22 February), **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (8 and 17 July), **Black Rock** (11 July), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **as-**

sault on Fort Erie (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September 1814).

The 2/8th was stationed in **Nova Scotia** and **New Brunswick** from 1810. Part of it went overland to Quebec during the winter months of 1814. It was involved in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were **Thomas Buck**, Thomas Deane, Thomas Evans, George S. Jarvis, **Robert McDouall**, and Neal McNeal.

EIGHTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **North Carolina**, **South Carolina**, and **Georgia**. The record indicates that some portion of the regiment was briefly present during the **blockade of Fort George** (1 July–9 October 1813).

88TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First recruited in 1793, the **unit** was known as the Connaught Rangers. After serving in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/88th was sent to Canada and arrived at **Quebec** in August 1814. It was involved in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

85TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** was originally recruited in 1793. It became known as Bucks Volunteers and was a **light infantry unit**. The 1/85th served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) before being sent in July 1814 to **Bermuda**, where it was part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814) and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September).

It was also involved in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's**

Gulf coast campaign (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **attack on Villeré’s plantation** (23 December), **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Bladensburg.” Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were William P. De Bathe, **George Robert Gleig**, and William Thornton.

81ST REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First raised in 1793, the 1/81st saw service in the Mediterranean Sea before being sent to Canada. It arrived in August 1814 and was sent to **Kingston** but saw no action during the war.

89TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** was raised in 1793. It saw action against the French in Spain before the 2/89th went to Canada, arriving there in October 1812. Sent to UC, it was involved in the following actions: 1813, the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February), **Longwoods** (4 March), **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its active and prominent officers during the war were **James Basden**, Miller Clifford, and **Joseph Morrison**.

82ND REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was originally raised in 1793 and was known as the Prince of Wales’s Volunteers. After serving in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/82nd arrived in Canada in June 1814. Sent to UC, it arrived on the **Niagara Peninsula** in August and was involved in the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the action at **Cook’s Mills** (19 October). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its notable officers during the war was Henry A. Proctor.

ELEVENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in upper **New York** and **Vermont**.

Elements of the regiment were present at numerous actions, including the following: 1813, **Missisquoi Bay** (12 October), **Chateauguay** (26 October), **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November); 1814, Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its notable members during the war were **John Campbell**, **Jarvis Hanks**, and John McNeil.

ELITE. The “elite” of a **regiment** were its **flank companies**. The term was sometimes used to refer to a **company** of well-trained and uniformed **militia** or to a force kept in reserve during a battle.

ELIZABETH. See *ASP* (1813A) (USN).

ELLIOTT, JESSE DUNCAN (1782–1845). Born in Hagerstown, Maryland, Elliott entered the USN as a **midshipman** in 1804 and was present in the USS *Chesapeake* during the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). He was promoted to **lieutenant** in April 1810, and in 1812 he went with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** USN detachment to the Great Lakes and initiated work on developing a **squadron** on **Lake Erie** near **Buffalo**, where he spearheaded the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October) off **Fort Erie, UC**.

The next spring, Elliott was promoted to **master commandant** and commanded Chauncey's flagship, the U.S. Sloop *Madison*, during the **battles of York** (27 April) and **Fort George** (27 May) and during that summer led a detachment of men to join Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at **Erie, Pennsylvania**. He was

promoted to master commandant in July 1813 and commanded the U.S. Sloop *Niagara* during the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September). Elliott's failure to support Perry's flagship, the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence*, during most of the battle drew much criticism and resulted in the acrimonious **Perry–Elliott controversy**. Before the controversy grew, however, Congress voted a gold coin to be struck in honor of Elliott's participation in the battle, just as it had done for Perry. After Perry received permission to leave the lakes, Elliott commanded at Erie until April 1814. During that time, he destroyed morale in the squadron, and it was in a deplorable state when he handed command of it to Captain **Arthur Sinclair**.

In 1814, he commanded the U.S. Sloop *Sylph* on **Lake Ontario** under Chauncey. After the war, he pursued an active career afloat and on shore, being promoted to **captain** in 1817 and appointed **commodore** in 1829. Elliott's contentious nature earned him a well-deserved bad reputation.

ELLIOTT, MATTHEW (ca. 1739–1814). Born in Ireland, Elliott settled in **Pennsylvania** in 1761 and fought for the British during the **Seven Years' War** (1756–1763) and the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), following which he settled at **Amherstburg, UC**, developing a prosperous farm. From his earliest times in America, Elliott was closely connected with the various native peoples (**Tecumseh** and the **Prophet** among them) as a trader and later as an officer in the **British Indian Department**.

In 1812, he was the superintendent of aboriginal affairs at Amherstburg and was highly influential in uniting the nations against American expansion. He was present at the **capture of Detroit** on 16 August 1812 and accompanied Captain **Adam Muir** on his failed **expedition against Fort Wayne** in September. Elliott also led native forces at the second **battle of Frenchtown** (22 January 1813) and the **sieges of Fort Meigs** (May and July 1813) and **Fort Stephenson** (August 1813), after which he was harshly criticized for failing to control the warriors from murdering captured wounded Americans. Elliott often clashed with Major General **Henry Procter** but remained highly significant as a liaison with native forces. He was with them at **battle of Moraviantown** (October 1813) but escaped capture and continued with the survivors of Tecumseh's force, the "**Western**

Indians,” in the British camp at **Burlington Heights**. When the Americans withdrew from the **Niagara Peninsula** after the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December 1813), Elliott and several hundred of the warriors joined Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** when he made his headquarters at St. Davids. A large number of them participated in the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December), during which they ran amok, looting and destroying private property.

In 1814, he was posted at **Burlington**, from where he was launching native attacks against American forces until ill health took his life.

EMBARGO ACT (22 December 1807). This law was part of the American **Restrictive System** and was more aggressive than the **Nonimportation Act** of 1806. Known as “Jefferson’s Embargo,” it came in retaliation to Britain’s **orders in council** and France’s **Berlin Decree** and also derived from American outrage over the ***Chesapeake–Leopard Affair*** (22 June 1807). The original law and its several supplements forbade American exportation and was intended to punish British and French interests. Instead, it damaged American commerce more than foreign interests, leading to wide-scale smuggling with **BNA** and protests in the Atlantic states. Realizing the act was counterproductive, President **Thomas Jefferson** repealed it on 1 March 1809 and replaced it with the **Nonintercourse Act**.

EMBARGO ACT (4 April 1812). Originally conceived as a 60-day embargo, this act, which prohibited all foreign trade by American shippers, was to last for 90 days and was understood to be a precursor to the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812).

EMBARGO ACT (17 December 1813). Designed to prevent American shippers from engaging in **license trade** with Britain and its allies, this prohibited American vessels from all foreign trade. It was repealed on 14 April 1814.

EMBODIED MILITIA. *See* MILITIA FORCES.

EMBRASURE. This was an opening in a **parapet** through which a piece of **artillery** was fired.

ENDYMION (RN). Under Captain **Henry Hope**, this **frigate** was stationed out of **Halifax** in 1814 and participated in the capture of the USS **United States** (15 January 1815). It was broken up in 1868.

Type: 40-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 1797, Rotherlithe, UK. Standard armament: 26 24-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 159' 2³/₈" gd × 41' 11³/₈" × 12' 4" dh, 1,238 tons. Crew: 320.

ENEMY TRADE ACT (6 July 1812). The U.S. Congress passed this law to prohibit American trade with any enemy and in particular to prohibit the trade of any war materials with the provinces of **BNA** or Britain. British vessels under neutral flags could not trade in the **United States**, and American carriers could not accept licenses to trade in British ports, although no mention was made of such trade in neutral ports. The law was widely ignored by American traders, many of whom were involved in **license trade** with British ports and those of its allies.

ENFILADE. To enfilade an enemy was to fire into the exposed part of his position, as in anchoring a **gunboat** so that it could fire into the open flank of a shore **battery**.

ENSIGN. See RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

ENTERPRISE (USN). Originally a **schooner**, the *Enterprise* was rebuilt at Mediterranean ports in 1805 and 1806 and converted to a **brig** in 1811–1812. Under the command of Lieutenant **William Burrows**, on 5 September 1813, the *Enterprise* captured HM Sloop **Boxer**, Commander **Samuel Blyth**, off Portland, Maine. The *Enterprise* continued in service after the war and was wrecked off Curaçao in July 1823.

Type: 12-gun **brig**. Launch: 1799, **Maryland**. Actual armament: (1813) two 9-pdr lg, 14 18-pdr crde. Dimensions (1805): 92' 9" ud × 23' 9" × 10' 10" dh, 165 tons. Crew: 70.

ENTERPRISE VS. BOXER, NAVAL BATTLE OF (5 September 1813). The U.S. Brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant **William Burrows**, was cruising off **Maine** in search of British **privateers** when it came into view of HM Sloop **Boxer**, Commander **Samuel Blyth**, on the morn-

ing of 5 September 1813. Under light breezes, the two vessels came into close range at 3:35 P.M. The American vessel had a larger crew and a heavier weight of metal, and in the first exchange of fire, the *Enterprise* inflicted heavy damage to the *Boxer*'s rigging and killed Commander Blyth. Burrows also received a mortal wound and died shortly after the battle; Lieutenant **Edward McCall** (USN) assumed command. The battle ended when the British surrendered after about an hour of fighting.

The British reported four killed and 18 wounded, while American losses were four dead and 14 wounded. The *Enterprise* towed the nearly dismantled *Boxer* into **Portland, Maine**, where both commanding officers were buried with full military honors.

EPERVIER (RN). Commander **Richard Wales** had the *Epervier* when Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington** in the U.S. Sloop *Peacock* captured it off Cape Canaveral, **Florida**, on 29 April 1814. The *Epervier* was bought into the **USN** but was lost with all hands in the North Atlantic during the summer of 1815.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1812, Rochester, UK. Actual armament: (1814) two 18-pdr crde, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

EREBUS (RN). Originally built by the **RN** as a fireship, the *Erebus* was reclassified as a **sixth-rate sloop** in 1808 and soon thereafter converted into a **rocket ship** for the launch of **Congreve rockets**. The rockets were launched through ports on the lower deck, their sticks seated in channels extending into the hold. The rocketeers sighted their targets through scuttles next to the launch ports. A screen at the base of the rocket deflected its blast, although the amount of smoke would equal that of any lower-deck scene. The *Erebus* proved to have very limited effectiveness. It was sold in 1816 and is not to be confused with the **bomb vessel** *Erebus* of 1826, which was eventually used for polar explorations.

Type: 16-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1807. Armament: (1814) two 9-pdr lg, 14 18-pdr crde, Congreve rocket **battery**. Dimensions: 108' 9" ud × 29' 7" × 9' dh, 422 tons. Crew: 55.

ERIE (1810) (PM/RN). Captured by the British at **Fort Mackinac** on 17 July 1812, this vessel was briefly part of Commander **Robert**

Barclay's squadron in the summer of 1813 but was not employed in the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813). Its fate is uncertain.

Type: 2-gun **sloop**. Launch: 1810, **Black Rock, New York**, as **merchantman**. Actual armament: (1813) one 12-pdr crde, one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 35 tons. Crew: 15.

ERIE (1813) (USN). This was one of three **ship-sloops** ordered by the **U.S. Congress** in January 1813. Although ready for sea in the spring of 1814, it was **blockaded** by the British until the war ended.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1813, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: two 18-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 117' 11" gd × 31' 6" × 14' 6" dh, 509 tons. Crew: 150.

ERIE, FORT. The first **Fort Erie**, built at the confluence of **Lake Erie** and the **Niagara River**, was originally begun in 1764, but by 1805 it was in such poor repair that the British began work on a new fort. By 1812, the **fort** consisted of two **barracks** and four **bastions**, an incomplete **fosse**, and **curtains**. During the American possession in the summer of 1814, an 800-yard-long **parapet** was built southwest along the lake shore, with a wide ditch and **abatis** outside of it and **traverses** within. New **batteries** were built, and it was heavily armed with guns.

ERIE, FORT, ASSAULT ON (15 August 1814). During the second week of August, the Right Division of the **British army** under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** established a **battery** containing three 24-pdr **long guns**, a 24-pdr **carronade**, and an 8-inch **mortar** 1,100 yards north of **Fort Erie**. On 12 August, they cleared the trees in front of it and opened fire the next day. Although it was soon revealed that the battery had been placed too far from the fort, Drummond concluded that it did enough immediate damage to the **fort** to warrant an assault.

The assault was to commence at 2:00 A.M. on 15 August with a demonstration by native warriors (mainly the "**Western Indians**" and some from the **Grand River Six Nations** under **John Norton**) in front of the western **ramparts** of the fort as a diversion for attacks in three columns. The Right Column would attack **Snake Hill** from the south. It was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel **Viktor Fischer**

and consisted of about 1,500 men (mainly **De Watteville's Regiment** and the **1/8th Regiment of Foot** with the **light companies** of the **2/89th** and **100th Regiments of Foot**, about a dozen **Royal Regiment of Artillery** and one rocketeer of the **Rocket Corps** with **Congreve rockets**, and a **troop** of **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons**). To preserve a silent approach, Drummond ordered the men to remove their flints from the **muskets** and depend on **bayonets** only. The Center Column, led by Lieutenant Colonel **William Drummond**, was to attack the old stone fortifications from the west. It consisted of about 300 men (**flank companies** from the **1/41st** and **104th Regiments of Foot**, a dozen **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, 50 **Royal Marines**, and 90 **RN** officers and seamen under Commander **Alexander Dobbs**). The Left Column, under Colonel **Hercules Scott**, would attack the fort from the north and consisted of about 700 from Scott's **103rd Regiment of Foot**. Colonel **John Tucker** commanded the reserve, comprising the rest of the De Wattevilles, the **1/1st Regiment of Foot**, **Glengarry Light Infantry**, the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia**, and a troop of 19th Dragoons. Drummond stationed himself at his new battery to observe the engagement.

Drummond believed that Major General **Jacob Brown's** Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** (temporarily commanded by Brigadier General **Edward Gaines**) was too weak to defend Fort Erie. In reality, Gaines had about 3,000 men: elements of the **Ninth**, **Eleventh**, **Seventeenth**, **Nineteenth**, **Twenty-first**, **Twenty-second**, and **Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **First** and **Fourth U.S. Regiments of Rifles**; the **Corps of Artillery**; **New York Militia** and **Pennsylvania Militia**; and probably some **Stockbridge** warriors).

Orchestrating a night assault on three fronts proved very difficult. The natives failed to begin their skirmishing on time, and Fischer's column was delayed in reaching its objective. It encountered an American **picket** that fired on it and withdrew to the fort. Fischer's **light infantry** tried repeatedly to gain the Snake Hill battery from two directions, and the main body came up also, but the **abatis** and height of the defenses (too tall for their scaling ladders) and murderous **artillery** and **infantry** fire pushed them back. They retreated in confusion with an American detachment hot on their heels.

The Left Column did not attack until Fischer had retreated, but

after two attempts Scott's men were not able to withstand the fire of the artillery from the battery named for the engineer Lieutenant David B. Douglass, and the infantry and fell back; Scott and numerous others were killed.

The Center Column was attacking by then and in three charges managed to gain the north **bastion** of the fort but could get no further; Colonel Drummond was killed. In attempting to turn a gun to blast a way into the fort, the British ignited a large **magazine** that erupted with a phenomenal explosion around 5:00 A.M. The British were soon in retreat with some American infantry chasing them.

Lieutenant General Drummond's assault was a profound failure. He later laid blame on Fischer for not having controlled his column better, but his plan was clearly at fault. He reported 57 killed, 304 wounded, and 539 missing; among the latter were hundreds of dead and wounded, many of them blown to pieces by the explosion. Gaines tallied 10 dead and 39 wounded and praised, among others, the efforts of Brigadier Generals **Peter Porter** and **Eleazar Ripley**, Major **Eleazar Wood**, and Captain **Nathan Towson**.

ERIE, FORT, CAPTURE OF (3 July 1814). This was the first action in Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814). Brown's intention was to land the First Brigade of his Left Division to the north of **Fort Erie** and the Second Brigade to the south and, thereby, seal it off from support. In the predawn hours of 3 July, Brigadier General **Winfield Scott** crossed the river with the First Brigade and sent the **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** forward to the **fort**. The Second Brigade, under Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley**, was confused in its crossing, and a portion of it had joined Scott by dawn, when Brown appeared and ordered the **artillery** to be put into action. The force gathering around Fort Erie consisted of about 2,000 men with more arriving as the day wore on.

Major **Thomas Buck** commanded the **garrison** in the fort, which consisted of about 120 from the **1/8th Regiment of Foot**, a dozen from the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and some of the **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons**. He sent messengers to the British command post at **Chippawa** as soon as he knew the Americans were landing. When they approached the fort, he fired several rounds of

artillery and then began a parlay with the invaders that resulted in his surrender at 4:00 P.M. The Americans promptly occupied the fort.

ERIE, FORT, SIEGE OF (5 August–21 September 1814). After the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August), Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** realized he was going to have to lay **siege** to **Fort Erie**, which was occupied by the Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** under Major General **Jacob Brown** (temporarily replaced by Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley** and then by Brigadier General **Edmund Gaines**). Under the direction of Lieutenant George Philipotts of the **Corps of Royal Engineers, Royal Sappers and Miners** and other fatigue parties began building a **battery** 1,100 yards north of the fort, with support from elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**. Trenches and parallels were dug to support the battery and link it to the British camp and other positions. Outfitted with three 24-pdr **long guns**, a 24-pdr **carronade**, and an 8-inch **mortar**, it opened fire on 13 August but was too far from the fort to have effect. It was under fire from American batteries at **Black Rock** and **USN schooners**, but this latter threat ended with the **capture of the Ohio and Somers** (12 August).

The opposing forces skirmished nearly continuously after 1 August. The British launched the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), which was a disastrous failure, and skirmishing continued. A new battery was built southwest of the fort and closer to it but in such a place as to make it nearly impossible to sight targets. A third battery at closer range was prepared, but before it could come into action and while Drummond was confirming his decision to lift the siege (because of a lack of supplies and the weakness of his force), Brown launched the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), which led to another bloodbath.

Drummond succeeded in removing his guns by 21 September and headed for **Chippawa** to set up a new defensive position, thus ending the siege.

ERIE, FORT, SORTIE (17 September 1814). Following his unsuccessful **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August 1814), Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** continued his **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) by erecting a second **battery** nearer to the fort. It was ill

placed and mainly ineffective, so his engineers began a third battery. Drummond had received reinforcements for his depleted Right Division: the **82nd Regiment of Foot** arrived late in August, and the **6th Regiment of Foot** arrived early in September. It rained heavily during September, making camp conditions deplorable, and as the engineers announced on 16 September that the third battery was ready, Drummond was deciding to break off his **siege**.

Although still convalescing from the wound he suffered at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), Major General **Jacob Brown** resumed command at **Fort Erie** on 2 September and a week later proposed a **sortie** against the British batteries, which had harassed his **division** for more than a month. The subsequent plan gave Brigadier General **Peter Porter** command of two columns (the Right Column comprising 400 of the **First** and **Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, the **squadron** of the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and 500 **New York Militia** and the Left Column consisting of several hundred **New York Militia**) to capture Battery Three. This done, Porter would move on Battery Two, joining with a third column commanded by Brigadier General **James Miller** (the **Ninth, Eleventh, and Nineteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**). Brown reluctantly gave Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley** command of a reserve column (the **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and part of the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**) stationed between Batteries One and Two to cover the other columns' retreats. The **First** and **Fourth U.S. Regiments of Rifles** with the few **Stockbridge** warriors still present formed the advance **skirmishers**, and Major **Thomas Jesup** had the **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and convalescents in the fort.

After a lengthy barrage from his batteries while his force moved into position, Brown launched his sortie about 3:00 P.M. on 17 September during a heavy shower of rain. Elements of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, **De Watteville's Regiment**, and the **1/8th Regiment of Foot** were on guard at the batteries and in the trenches, and a large crew of men was removing the guns from Battery Three when Porter's column suddenly appeared and overran them. They **spiked** the guns, blew up a **blockhouse**, and moved toward Battery Two, joined by Miller's column. There, the Americans routed the

British, seized the battery, spiked the guns, and moved toward Battery One.

By a system of rotation, the other British regiments were taking their turn to rest in camp, but they sprang into action when the fighting started and charged forward to beat back the Americans. The **1/1st** and **2/89th Regiments of Foot** and the **Glengarry Light Infantry** arrived in the area near Battery Three while the 6th and 82nd Foot surged toward Battery One. **John Norton** joined the action with members of the **Grand River Six Nations** and some “**Western Indians.**” There was little order in this advance, and the fighting became a desperate melee at the batteries and trench lines, with much confusion between friend and foe alike and no quarter given. The British succeeded in recapturing Battery Two, and Brown signaled a retreat; the fighting ended around 5:00 P.M., with the British reoccupying their positions.

The losses to both sides were enormous. Drummond reported 115 killed, 183 wounded, and 316 missing, while Brown noted 79 dead, 216 wounded, and 216 missing. Numerous prisoners were taken on both sides. Major **Eleazar Wood** was mortally wounded and captured, while both Porter and Ripley were wounded, the latter severely enough to end his war service. Unknown to Brown until later was the fact that if he had waited two days, all the British batteries would have been empty and inactive and Drummond’s force would have been taking up a defensive post at **Chippawa**.

ERIE, LAKE. The fourth largest and the shallowest of the Great Lakes, Erie is 569 feet above sea level. It receives **Lake Huron’s** water via the **St. Clair River**, **Lake St. Clair**, and the **Detroit River** and drains into **Lake Ontario** via the **Niagara River**.

ERIE, LAKE, BATTLE OF. *See* PUT-IN-BAY, BATTLE OF (10 September 1813).

ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA. Founded in 1795, Erie is situated about 90 miles southeast of **Buffalo** on the **Lake Erie** shore, where Presque Isle Peninsula forms a long, protected bay; it was often referred to as Presque Isle during the war. In 1812, the village had a population of about 400. There was an old **blockhouse** overlooking the mouth of

the bay. The building of warships for Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** caused a great surge of business and development at Erie.

ERSKINE AGREEMENT (19 April 1809). Named for **David Erskine**, the British minister plenipotentiary to the **United States**, this was an agreement fashioned by Erskine and Secretary of State Robert Erskine to end the trade war with Britain. Erskine offered to have the **orders in council** dropped if the United States would resume full trade with Britain but refrain from trade with France. The **RN** would also be allowed to inspect U.S. shipping for French products. President **James Madison** rejected the latter condition, and though Erskine promoted the plan to the British cabinet, it was not accepted, and he was recalled to England.

ESPIEGLE (RN). Commander **John Taylor** of the *Espiegle* was dismissed from the **RN** for failing to assist HM Sloop ***Peacock***, Commander **William Peake**, off Guyana, South America, on 24 February 1813, when the U.S. Sloop ***Hornet***, Master Commandant **James Lawrence**, captured and destroyed it. The *Espiegle* was anchored in the nearby Demerara River at the time. The **RN** sold the *Espiegle* in 1832.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: Ipswich, UK. Standard armament: two 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

ESSEX (USN). In the *Essex*, Captain **David Porter** captured HM Sloop ***Alert***, Commander **Thomas Laugharne**, on 13 August 1812 west of the Azores. He also took nearly two dozen transports, merchantmen, and whalers during voyages in the southern Atlantic and Pacific Oceans. HMS ***Phoebe*** and HMS ***Cherub*** captured the *Essex* on 28 March 1814 at Valparaiso. The **ship** was taken to Portsmouth, where it was reduced to a hulk but not sold until 1837.

Type: 32-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1799, Salem, **Massachusetts**. Actual armament: (1810) six 12-pdr lg, 40 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 141' 9" bp × 37' × 12' 3" dr, 850 tons. Crew: 300.

ESSEX COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Essex County was located on the **Detroit River** and was part of the Western District of **UC**. **Flank**

companies were formed from its two **infantry regiments** in 1812, as was one **company** for marine service and a **troop** of **dragoons**.

The actions in which the Essex Militia were involved include the following: 1812, **Detroit** (16 August); 1813, **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January) and **Fort Meigs** (May); 1814, **Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

ESSEX DECISION. Handed down in May or June 1805 (surviving records conflict) by the Lords Commissioners of Appeals in Britain, this decision rejected the appeal by the owners of the American **merchantman** *Essex* for compensation for their vessel's capture in 1799. It had been seized by a British **privateer** and declared a **prize** carrying Spanish goods from Spain to Havana, Cuba, which contravened the **Rule of 1756**. The *Essex* had stopped at Salem, **Massachusetts**, but the owners failed to prove that the cargo had been duly imported into the **United States** with the payment of full customs fees and then exported, which would have constituted a **broken voyage**. This decision confirmed the Rule of 1756 and acted against American abuse of the broken voyage concept. It infuriated American merchants who believed Britain was intruding on their right to conduct trade freely. The *Essex* itself was released on bail after its cargo had been confiscated and continued in operation until 1806, when Arab pirates attacked it in the Black Sea, killing its captain and crew.

ESSEX JUNIOR (USN). Captain **David Porter** in the USS *Essex* captured the British whaler *Atlantic* off the Galápagos Islands in May 1813 and converted it to the **tender** *Essex Junior*. After the capture of the *Essex* at Valparaiso on 28 March 1814, Porter and his crew were sent home on **parole** in the *Essex Junior*. The vessel was sold at **New York City** in 1814.

ESSEX VS. ALERT, NAVAL BATTLE OF (13 August 1812). After capturing nine **merchantmen** during a cruise in July and August 1812, Captain **David Porter** in the USS *Essex* met with HM Sloop *Alert*, Commander **Thomas Laugharne**, on 13 August near the Azores. The two vessels approached each other, and the *Alert* commenced the action around noon. Porter easily outmaneuvered the smaller vessel, firing until Laugharne signaled the surrender after a contest of only eight minutes.

The *Alert* was badly damaged and had nine men killed and five wounded, while the Americans apparently suffered no casualties. The British crew rioted after Laugharne crossed to the *Essex*, tearing into storerooms for liquor and clothing. The *Alert* was the first British warship to fall into American hands in the war at sea.

EUSTIS, WILLIAM (1753–1825). Born in Cambridge, **Massachusetts**, Eustis studied medicine and was a surgeon with American forces during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He later became involved in state and federal politics as a **Republican**, serving in the **U.S. Congress** from 1800 to 1804. President **James Madison** selected him to be the secretary of war early in 1809, and Eustis worked to improve the functioning and strength of the army but not successfully enough to prepare it for war in 1812. A sudden escalation in every aspect of military preparation overwhelmed Eustis and his meager staff. He was held responsible for the military disasters at **Detroit** and **Queenston** in 1812 and resigned on 3 December. Madison soon made him the ambassador to the Netherlands. He continued in this position and other public offices after the war.

EXCHANGE. This was a method of repatriating **prisoners of war**. Although no formal procedure appears to ever have been approved, the agreement signed by British and American representatives in May 1813 indicates the exchange ratios. For instance, a **rear admiral** or a **major general** could be exchanged for an officer of equal standing or for 60 seamen or **privates**, while a naval **lieutenant** or army **captain** was equal to six men. Once formally exchanged, an individual could resume service under arms. It was common for a prisoner to be returned to his side on **parole** before a formal exchange could be completed.

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FAIR AMERICAN (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service in 1812 as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** on **Lake Ontario**. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 2-gun schooner. Launch: 1804, **Oswego, New York**, as a **merchantman**. Actual armament: one 32-pdr lg, one 24-pdr lg. Dimensions: 82 tons. Crew: 63.

FALCON, GORDON THOMAS. Falcon entered the **RN** as an able-bodied seaman in 1794 but was soon made a **midshipman** and was at the **fleet** action at Camperdown in October 1797. He received his **lieutenant's commission** in 1800 and was in HMS *Leopard* during the *Chesapeake-Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). He was made a **commander** in 1811 and a **post captain** in October 1813. He commanded HMS *Cyane* when it was taken by the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, along with HMS *Levant*, Captain **George Douglas**, on 20 February 1815, 200 miles east-northeast of Madeira. Falcon was honorably acquitted in the subsequent **court-martial** and had a series of commissions afloat in the decades after the war, advancing in 1848 to the rank of **rear admiral**.

FASCINE. In appearance, fascines generally resembled large woven baskets. Their construction varied according to use, but the weaving material was often branches, and the insides were filled with more branches or earth. Some fascines were set aflame and thrown into an enemy's **fortification**, while others were used to fill in a dry ditch so that troops could cross or to cover men working in a trench or serving a gun.

FEDERALIST PARTY. This political party and the Democratic-**Republican Party** developed during the 1790s as factions formed among the political leaders of the fledgling **United States**. The Federalists grew in power during the presidency of George Washington (1789–1797), although he eschewed overt party affiliations, as did most of his contemporaries. The party's tenets were complex and evolved slowly, but it essentially stood for a strong central government and opposed open elections and widespread suffrage. Its power base was among the commercial and industrial centers of New England to the exception of the more agriculturally based interests of the southern and western states. The party tended to be elitist in comparison to the Republicans, who catered more to the common man. President John Adams (1797–1801) pursued Federalist policies dur-

ing his term (1797–1801), including the expansion of the **U.S. Navy** and **U.S. Army**. **Thomas Jefferson** and the Republicans took control in 1801, and from that point the Federalists acted as a conservative-minded opposition party. They supported a strong army and navy, good relations with Britain, and the aboriginal nations and, switching their former position, favored states' rights over those of the central government.

In the years leading up to the war, the Federalists criticized restrictive trade policies and the move toward hostilities with Britain. They voted unanimously against the **War Bill** and with significant solidarity against most subsequent legislation dealing with hostilities. The Federalists argued against the government's war measures on the issues of continued trade restrictions, the costs involved, the imposition of taxes, the strategy of invading Canada, and the possibility that the French and Napoleon would get involved. When attacks were made on American soil in the summer of 1814, the Federalists relented on their hard stand and supported defensive measures. Popular support for the Federalists was strongest in New England, where the Federalist governors of **Connecticut**, **Massachusetts**, and **Rhode Island** refused a request to mobilize **militia** in 1812. The **Hartford Convention** (15 December 1814–5 January 1815) dealt with Federalist views. Among prominent Federalists during the war were **James Bayard**, John Cotton Smith, Caleb Strong, and **Stephen Van Rensselaer**.

FENCIBLE FORCES. A **regular regiment** raised for limited service was known as a fencible regiment. The **Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiment**, for example, was raised for service in **BNA**.

FIELD ARTILLERY. Most of the gunners in the field artillery moved on foot rather than being mounted as in the **horse artillery**.

FIELD CARRIAGE. This was a carriage of lighter construction than a **garrison carriage**, mounted on large wheels, and made to be hauled into battle by a team of horses.

FIELD GUN. This was a piece of **artillery** attached to a **field carriage**. Most field guns were 12-pdrs or smaller and often made of brass, which made them lighter than iron guns.

FIFTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. Its recruitment took place mainly in **New York** and **New Jersey**.

Commanded by then–Lieutenant Colonel **Zebulon M. Pike**, this **unit** was trained to fight in three **ranks**, the rear rank being equipped with 12-foot-long **pikes** for use in close quarters. This rank also carried a short **musket**, and part of the regiment was outfitted with **swords**.

Elements of the regiment were present during various actions, including the following: 1812, **Lacolle, LC** (20 November); 1813, **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (17 July), Major General **James Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2 November), and **Hoople’s Creek** (10 November); 1814, the last stage of Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October) and the **skirmish at Cook’s Mills** (19 October).

Among its prominent officers during the war was Zebulon Pike.

FIFTH-RATE. This was an **RN frigate** with 30 to 44 guns on one or two decks, such as the ***Belvidera***.

5TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally formed in 1674, this **unit** became known as the Northumberland Regiment. Having served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/5th arrived in Canada in August 1814 and was stationed at **Chambly, LC**. It was involved in **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

FIFTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in April 1808. It recruited in **Pennsylvania**, **Delaware**, and western **New Jersey**.

Elements of the regiment were present at numerous actions, including the following: 1812, **Smyth’s failed invasion of UC** (28 No-

vember); 1813 **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **French Creek** (1–2 November); 1814, the last stage of Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October) and the **skirmish at Cook’s Mills** (19 October).

Among its notable officers during the war was **Daniel Bissell**.

5TH WEST INDIA REGIMENT (British army). This **unit** was raised in 1795 and was known as Howe’s Regiment of Foot. It consisted mainly of black recruits, many of them former slaves. It was sent from Guadeloupe to participate in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

58TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was formed in 1755 and was known as the Rutlandshire Regiment. After service in Spain, the 1/58th arrived at **Quebec** in the summer of 1814 and was involved in **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

57TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1755, this **unit** was known as the West Middlesex Regiment. After active service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/51st arrived in Canada in August 1814 and was **garrisoned** at points on the upper **St. Lawrence River**. It did not see action in battle.

FINCH (RN). *See GROWLER* (1812) (USN).

FINDLAY, JAMES (1770–1835). A settler who held numerous public offices in Ohio, Findlay was an **officer** in the **Ohio Militia** and volunteered his services in the spring of 1812. He was elected colonel of the Second **Ohio Volunteer Infantry** and participated in Brigadier General **William Hull’s campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). He and his men were captured when Major General **Isaac Brock’s** force captured **Detroit** on 16 August 1812. **Duncan**

McArthur, Lewis Cass, and he were harsh critics of Hull. He was later **breveted** to **brigadier general** in the state **militia** for his war service.

FIRELOCK. *See* MUSKET.

FIRST-CLASS VOLUNTEER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

FIRST-RATE. This was an **RN** warship with more than 100 guns on three decks, such as the *St. Lawrence* (1814).

1ST REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1633, this **regiment** became known as the Royal Scots. The 1/1st arrived at **Quebec** in August 1812; a portion was taken captive by an American **privateer** in transit. By detachments, the **battalion** was eventually sent to **UC** the next year. The 4/1st arrived at Quebec in June 1814 and remained there in **garrison** without seeing action.

Elements of the 1/1st were present at various actions, including the following: 1813, **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Sodus** (19 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (17 July), **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), **Lewiston** (19 December), **Manchester** (21 December), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Longwoods** (4 March), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its most active officers during the war were William I. Brereton, John Gordon, and John M. Wilson.

FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY. Formed in April 1802, this **unit** did not become known as the “First” until the formation of the **Second** and **Third Regiments of Artillery** in January 1812. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in the First, Second, Sixth, and Seventh **Military Districts**. In May 1814, the **regiment** was consolidated with the other artillery regiments to form the **Corps of Artillery**, consisting of five **battalions** of four **companies** each.

Elements of the regiment were involved in the following actions: 1812, Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812), **Maguaga** (9 August), **Detroit** (16 August), and **Queenston Heights** (13 October); 1813, **York** (27 April), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), and **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December).

Among its notable officers during the war were Samuel Dyson and Nathan Leonard.

FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Dating back to 1784, this **regiment** took its name as the First Infantry in 1796 and eventually was to comprise 10 **companies**. In 1812, it was stationed at various posts in the **Old Northwest**, including **Forts Dearborn, Detroit, and Wayne**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Kentucky, Ohio, and the Territories of Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri**. In 1814, it recruited in **New Jersey**, and detachments were sent from the western **forts** to the **Niagara Frontier**.

Elements of the regiment were present at the following actions: 1812, **Fort Dearborn** (15 August), Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812), **Maguaga** (9 August), **Detroit** (16 August), and **Fort Wayne** (5–12 September); 1814, Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its notable officers during the war were **Nathan Heald, Philip Ostrander, and James Rhea**.

FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS. This **regiment** was created in April 1808 and intended to comprise eight **troops**. It did not become known as the “First” until the formation of the **Second Regiment of Light Dragoons** in January 1812. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in the Fifth, Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth **Military Districts**. In March 1814, the two regiments were consolidated to form the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**.

In 1813, elements of this **unit**, sometimes unmounted, were present during these actions: Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Major General

James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River (October–November), and the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** (10 November).

Among its prominent officers during the war were Electus Backus, **Leonard Covington**, and Jacint Laval.

FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES. This **unit** was created by the U.S. Congress on 12 April 1808 as the **U.S. Regiment of Rifles**, the ordinal being added when three more such **regiments** were created in February 1814. It originally drew enlistments from **Kentucky, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Vermont**, and the territories of **Indiana, Mississippi, and Louisiana**. In 1814, it recruited in **Virginia and Georgia**.

Elements of the regiment were involved in the following actions: 1813, **Brockville** (7 February), **Ogdensburg** (22 February), **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (8 July), **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2), and **Hoople's Creek** (10 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), **Sandy Creek** (30 May), **Odelstown** (28 June), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Conjockta Creek** (3 August), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). A **company** saw brief action during the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Daniel Appling, Benjamin Forsyth**, and **Lodowick Morgan**.

1ST WEST INDIA REGIMENT (British army). This **unit** was originally recruited in 1795 and was known as Whyte's Regiment of Foot. It consisted mainly of black recruits, many of them former slaves. It was sent from Guadeloupe to participate in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

FISCHER, CARL VIKTOR (?–1821). A native of Switzerland, Fisher joined **De Watteville's Regiment** in the **British army** as a **major** in 1801 and was **brevetted** to **lieutenant colonel** in 1808. He received full promotion to that rank in 1811. With his **regiment**, he saw wide experience in the Mediterranean and in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) before going to Canada in 1813.

Fisher's first active service during the war came when Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** put him in command of the land phase of the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May 1814), for which he was highly lauded. Fisher was brevetted to **colonel** in June, and his regiment arrived on the **Niagara Peninsula** following the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July) and joined Drummond at the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September). When Drummond conceived the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), he gave Fischer command of the Right Column, ordering him to capture the southern flank of **Fort Erie** at the point of the **bayonet**; the **infantry** were to remove the flints from their **muskets** to ensure their silent approach. Despite repeated attempts to infiltrate the fort, Fischer's men were pushed back, suffering numerous casualties, and Drummond subsequently criticized Fischer's efforts; the assault failed miserably, primarily because of Drummond's planning. Fischer suffered a severe wound and saw no further action. He ended his days in Switzerland.

FISHER, PETER (1780–1844). Little is known about this officer's career. He was born in England, passed his **lieutenancy** exam in the **RN** in 1799, and earned a **commission** at that rank the following year. He was promoted to **commander** in 1808 and **captain** in February 1814. Fisher was part of the 900-man RN detachment sent that spring under Captain **George Downie** to serve with Commodore **Sir James Yeo** on the Great Lakes. Shortly after his arrival at **Kingston, UC**, in June, Yeo sent Fisher to take command of the **squadron** at **Isle-aux-Noix**. He held that post until late August, when Yeo abruptly replaced Fisher with Downie. This change of command sparked the **Yeo–Fisher controversy**. Fisher commanded HMS **Montreal** on **Lake Ontario** briefly during the autumn of 1814. He remained in the RN following the war. The only station he is known to have held was that of superintendent of the dockyard at Sheerness on the Thames River from 1841.

FITZGIBBON, JAMES (1780–1863). Born in Ireland, Fitzgibbon enlisted in the **49th Regiment of Foot** of the **British army** in 1798 as a **private** soldier. Through the patronage of **Isaac Brock**, he was **commissioned** as an **ensign** in 1806 and **lieutenant** in 1809.

He saw action at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813), after which he formed a body of **light infantry** to operate close to the American lines around **Fort George**. He is best known for his conduct near the end of the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June), when he bluffed the American commander Colonel **Charles Boerstler** into surrendering by stating that a large British reinforcement was on hand. Fitzgibbon and his light infantry were involved at the **raid on Black Rock** (11 July). He was made a **captain** in the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment** in October 1813. The next year, he saw action in the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Following the war, he settled in **UC**, entered the **militia**, and rose to prominence in the province.

FIVE MEDALS (1758–1826). Also known as Topinbee (“he who sits quietly”), this chief of the **Potawatomi** lived in the region of the St. Joseph River near **Fort Wayne**, Indiana. Prior to the war, he opposed **Tecumseh**’s efforts to form an alliance with the British but changed his views after the declaration and led his warriors to attack Fort Wayne unsuccessfully in September 1812.

FLAG OF TRUCE. The conventional white flag was used to signal the desire to approach an enemy’s position for the purpose of communication rather than aggression. This was a flag of truce. The term was sometimes used to refer to a **cartel**.

FLANK COMPANY. An **infantry regiment** usually had two flank companies, one at either end of its formation, on the regiment’s flanks. The **light company** was on the left and the **grenadier company** on the right. Because of their superior skill levels, these companies were also known as the regiment’s “**elite**.” In 1812, Major General **Isaac Brock** had the commanders of the **UC Militia** form

flank companies in each of the county **regiments**, each comprising selected officers and men and volunteers.

FLEET. This term was used to refer to a nation's entire naval force. A fleet was also a portion of that force on a particular station, having **ships-of-the-line**, and was divided into **squadrons**. In 1812, the **USN** was not large enough to form fleets in the way that the **RN** did, each of which was commanded by an officer in one of the **admiral** ranks.

FLINTLOCK. *See* MUSKET.

FLORIDA (RN). *See* FROLIC (USN).

FLORIDA (Spanish Territory). In 1812, Florida was a Spanish colony, but both the British and the Americans infiltrated Florida as part of their warfare with each other. Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) involved sending elements of the **RN** to make an alliance with **Creek** warriors and runaway black slaves on the **Apalachicola River**. They also occupied **Pensacola** briefly. In coordination with this effort, Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** conducted the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815), which involved inroads on Spanish territory. The Americans responded to the British activity by capturing and occupying Pensacola from November 1814. Major General **Andrew Jackson** headed up that expedition, which set a course for his invasion of Florida following the war. After much bitter fighting and diplomatic disputes, the Spanish finally sold Florida to the **United States** in 1821 and it became the 27th state in 1845.

FONTAINEBLEAU DECREE (18 October 1810). The French government passed this piece of legislation, which detailed the new penalties for involvement in smuggling. As a device for internal control, it was a part of the **Continental System**.

FOOT ARTILLERY. *See* FIELD ARTILLERY.

FORE-AND-AFT RIG. Sails set along the midline of a vessel are known as fore-and-aft sails. All vessels have them, even those that

are **square-rigged**, as they are essential for maneuvering as well as propulsion.

FORSYTH, BENJAMIN (ca. 1760–1814). A resident of **North Carolina**, Forsyth served briefly as a **lieutenant** in the **U.S. Army** in 1800 and reentered as a **captain** in the **(First) U.S. Regiment of Rifles**. After the **American declaration of war**, he was sent with one **company** to **Sackets Harbor**, where he arrived on 30 July.

Forsyth was a competent officer with a reputation for extreme aggression and bravery. His men were equally fierce and effective and ready to plunder any **prize** of war. He was active in numerous engagements, including the raid on **Gananoque**, **UC** (21 September 1812), and **Brockville** (7 February 1813).

Forsyth was promoted to **major** on 20 January 1813 and **breveted** to **lieutenant colonel** for distinguished service on 6 February. During the British **attack on Ogdensburg** (22 February), Forsyth commanded at that post with only his riflemen and some **New York Militia** and was forced to withdraw to Sackets Harbor. He led the advance of the American force at the **battle of York** (27 April) and was present at the **battles of Fort George** (27 May) and **Stoney Creek** (6 June) and through the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October).

He and his men were part of Colonel **Alexander Macomb's** reserve, or **elite, brigade** during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) and were present (and wounded) on 10 November at the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek**; they missed the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

In the spring of 1814, Major General **George Izard** sent **light infantry**, including Forsyth's **unit**, to guard the **New York/LC** border. Forsyth executed a number of raids into LC and was killed during one of them, a minor skirmish at **Odelltown** on 28 June 1814. He was widely mourned, having continued to prove his competence as an independent, brave, and effective leader but also one prone to audaciously exposing himself to enemy fire to set an example for his men. This last trait apparently cost him his life. He was buried at **Champlain, New York**.

FORT. This was a small **fortification**, usually surrounded on all sides by a **fosse**, a **rampart**, and a **parapet** or **palisade** and intended to

control some high ground or the passage of a river. It usually contained **blockhouses**, **barracks**, storehouses, shops, a hospital, a well, a **magazine**, and a **parade ground**. Its guns were usually placed in **bastions** and outlying **batteries**. Sometimes, however, a single battery, such as the **redan battery** at **Queenston, UC**, was referred to as a fort.

40TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Raised originally in 1717, this **unit** was known as the 2nd Somersetshire Regiment. The 1/40th saw action in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and was sent from France in 1814 to join Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) but arrived during the retreat after the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815) and saw no action.

FORTIETH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. In 1814, it recruited in **Massachusetts**.

Elements of the regiment were present the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815), commanded by Major Perley Putnam.

FORTIFICATION. There were many kinds of fortifications, their purpose being, in general, to prepare a position, such as a town or river mouth, for defense against an enemy's assault. *See also* FORT.

FORTY MILE CREEK, UC. This is one of numerous streams that flows over the **Niagara Escarpment** and northward into **Lake Ontario**. Its mouth is located about 40 miles west of the **Niagara River** at modern-day Grimsby, Ontario.

FORTY-FIFTH TO FORTY-EIGHTH U.S. REGIMENTS OF INFANTRY. These **units** were formed in March 1814, the first two recruiting in **Maine** and **New York**, the latter two in **Vermont** and **New York**, respectively. The Forty-seventh became the **Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in May 1814, while the Forty-eighth became the **Twenty-sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** at the same time.

41ST REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Dating back to 1719, the 41st was among the most active **units** during the war. The 1/41st

was stationed in Canada from 1799 and saw frequent tours of duty in UC.

The many actions in which elements of the 1/41st were involved include the following: 1812, **Brownstown**, (5 August), **Maguaga**, (9 August), **Detroit** (16 August), **Queenston Heights** (13 October), and **Frenchman's Creek** (28 November); 1813, **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), **Moraviantown** (5 October), **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), **Lewiston** (19 December), **Manchester** (21 December), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

The 2/41st was raised in England in 1812 and arrived in Canada in May 1813. Stationed at **Kingston**, it was involved in the skirmish at **Cranberry Creek** (19 July 1813).

The **regiment** was granted the **battle honors** of “Detroit,” Queenstown,” “Miami” (for actions against Frenchtown), and “Niagara.”

Among the most active and prominent officers in the regiment during the war were Richard Bullock Sr., William Derenzy, **Henry Procter**, **Adam Muir**, and **John Tucker**.

FORTY-FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. In 1814, it recruited in **New York** but does not appear to have seen any active service.

44TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally formed in 1741, this **unit** was known as East Essex Regiment. The 1/44th served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and in July 1814 was sent from Spain to **Bermuda**, where it was part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September). It then joined Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during

the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

The **regiment** was granted the **battle honor** of “Bladensburg.”

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Arthur Brooke**, John A. Johnson, and Thomas Mullins.

FORTY-FOURTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. In 1814, it recruited in Louisiana and **Tennessee**.

Elements of the **regiment** saw action in 1814 at the **capture of Pensacola** (7 November), the **attack on Villeré’s plantation** (23 December), and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December) and in 1815 during the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January) and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). Among its notable officers were Henry D. Peire and George T. Ross.

49TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was first raised in 1714 and was known as the **Hertfordshire Regiment**. It arrived in Canada in 1802 with then–Lieutenant Colonel **Isaac Brock** at its head and did several tours of duty in UC. The 1/49th (a second **battalion** was raised in England in 1813) was among the most active of the British units in the war.

Elements of the **regiment** were involved in the following actions: 1812, the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October), **Queenston Heights** (13 October), the **attack on French Mills** (23 November), and **Frenchman’s Creek** (28 November); 1813, **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), **Beaver Dams** (24 June), **Black Rock** (11 July), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Queenstown.”

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were **James Dennis**, **James Fitzgibbon**, John Glegg, and **John Vincent**.

FORTY-SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **compa-**

nies. In 1814, it recruited in **Pennsylvania** and **Delaware** but does not appear to have participated in any actions.

43RD REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Raised originally in 1741, this **unit** was known as the Monmouthshire Regiment. After service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the first **battalion** of this **regiment** of **light infantry** was sent to be part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815).

FORTY-THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. In 1814, it recruited in **North** and **South Carolina**. A company saw brief action during the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815) commanded by Major Abraham Massias.

FOSSE. This was a ditch formed around the perimeter of a **fortification**.

14TH LIGHT DRAGOONS (British army). Raised originally in 1714, this **unit** was also known as the Duchess of York's Own Regiment. After service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the **regiment** was sent to Jamaica, and then elements of it were present during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and at the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

FOURTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. It was originally raised mainly in **Maryland** with other recruits from **Pennsylvania** and **Virginia**.

Elements of the regiment were present during the following actions: 1812, **Symth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813,

Fort York (27 April), **Beaver Dams** (24 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), the last stage of Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), and the **skirmish at Cook’s Mills** (19 October).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Charles Boerstler** and **William Winder**.

FOURTH-RATE. In the **RN**, this was a warship with between 50 and 60 guns on two decks, such as the *Majestic*.

4TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1680, this **regiment** was known as the King’s Own Regiment. After service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/4th was sent in July 1814 to **Bermuda**, where it was part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September) and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September). It then joined Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **attack on Villeré’s plantation** (23 December), the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Bladensburg.”

Among its most active officers during the war were Robert Erskine, Alured D. Fonce, and Timothy Jones.

FOURTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1796, this **regiment** was discharged in 1802 and then reorganized in April 1808, when it was recruited in New England and posted to **garrisons** there. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Massachusetts** and **New Hampshire**.

Elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, Brigadier General **William Hull’s Cam-**

paign on the Detroit River (May–August), **Maguaga** (9 August), and **Detroit** (16 August); 1813, **Odelltown** (20 September) and **Cha-teauguay** (26 October); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the latter stage of Major General **Jacob Brown's Campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **John Boyd**, John Darrington, Josiah Snelling, and **Zebulon Pike**.

FOURTH U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES. This **unit** was formed in February 1814 to consist of 10 **companies**. They were recruited in **New York** and **Pennsylvania**, and **companies** converged on **Buffalo** and crossed into **UC** at **Fort Erie** to join Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814) in August.

Elements of the **regiment** participated in such actions as the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Among its most notable officers during the war was James Gibson.

FOX. *See* SAUK.

FOX BLOCKADE. Named for Prime Minister Charles James Fox, this **blockade** was declared as an **order in council** on 16 May 1806 and covered the European coastline from the Elbe River to Brest with the intention of only closely **blockading** the center portion of that span. It was seen by some Americans as a repudiation of the *Essex* **decision** by not allowing some free trade with Europe.

FREDERICKTOWN, MARYLAND, RAID AT. *See* GEORGETOWN AND FREDERICKTOWN, MARYLAND, RAID AT (6 May 1813).

FREE TRADE AND SAILORS' RIGHTS. This popular American slogan in support of war with Britain reflected American indignation over trade restrictions imposed by Britain's **orders in council** (and Napoleon's **Continental System**) and the **impressment** of American seamen into the **RN**.

FRENCH CHASSEURS. *See* INDEPENDENT COMPANIES OF FOREIGNERS.

FRENCH CREEK, SKIRMISH AT (1–2 November 1813). Because of horrendous weather and logistical problems, Major General **James Wilkinson** had great difficulty getting his massive flotilla under way from **Sackets Harbor** for his **campaign on the St. Lawrence River** late in October 1813. He sent a portion of his force under Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** ahead of the main body. At the end of the month, Brown managed to reach French Creek, **New York** (near modern-day Clayton, New York, about 18 miles from **Lake Ontario** and due south of **Gananoque, UC**), with the Second Brigade (**Sixth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-second U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), the **Fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, the **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery**, and parts of the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. He formed a camp that served as the rendezvous point for Wilkinson's **division**.

At **Kingston**, Major General **Francis de Rottenburg**, Commodore **Sir James Yeo**, and other senior officers debated the American intentions; would they attack Kingston or some point downstream? Hearing that Wilkinson's vanguard had reached French Creek, they sent a naval detachment to investigate. This was commanded by Commander **William Mulcaster** and consisted of HM Sloops **Lord Melville** and **Earl of Moira**, HM Schooners **Lord Beresford** and **Sir Sidney Smith**, and four **gunboats**.

Sailing down the channel to the north of **Wolfe Island** in a snow-storm, Mulcaster approached French Creek late in the afternoon of 1 November. Brown was ready, having posted **infantry** on a bluff overlooking the river and set up a **battery** of two 18-pdr **long guns**. The British received **musket** fire as they came in to anchor in the small bay and answered with **grape shot** and **canister**. Mulcaster anchored his three heaviest vessels (the *Smith* had to stand off, as there was not room for it) and bombarded the shore. He had intended to send the gunboats ashore to destroy Brown's **bateaux**, scows, and gunboats, but an adverse wind prevented it. Dusk fell, and Mulcaster withdrew.

The next morning, he renewed the attack, but the addition of a new battery and the strength of American **infantry** present prompted him

to break off the action. He knew as well that Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** was sailing downriver.

The British suffered one killed and 10 wounded, while Brown reported 10 casualties. Mulcaster's vessels suffered damage, but Brown's force was left more or less unscathed. Under Chauncey's cover, Wilkinson's main flotilla reached French Creek over the next few days.

FRENCH MILLS, NEW YORK. This small settlement was located six miles up the **Salmon River**, which emptied into the **St. Lawrence River** 10 miles below **Cornwall, UC**. It was **garrisoned** by **New York Militia**, and in November 1813 it became the American winter camp following the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November 1813). It was renamed Fort Covington following the war.

FRENCH MILLS, NEW YORK, ATTACK ON (23 November 1812). *See* AKWESASNE AND FRENCH MILLS, SKIRMISHES AT (23 October, 23 November 1812).

FRENCHMAN'S CREEK, UC, SKIRMISH AT. *See* SMYTH'S FAILED INVASION OF UC (28 November and 1 December 1812).

FRENCHTOWN, MARYLAND, RAID AT (29 April 1813). Located nearly 15 miles up the Elk River from **Chesapeake Bay**, this hamlet was raided during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813). It was a stopover point on the main road from Philadelphia to **Baltimore** and consisted of several homes, a tavern, storehouses, and other small buildings. On 28 April, Cockburn, temporarily in HM Sloop *Fantome* with other small vessels, anchored in the Elk River and that night sent a flotilla of up to 12 armed boats with seamen, 150 **Royal Marines**, and a few **Royal Regiment of Artillery** under Lieutenant George Westphal, **RN**, to Frenchtown, having heard it housed military stores.

Westphal approached the village the next morning when his boats were fired on by a land **battery** of up to six light guns. The boats returned the fire with their **long guns** and **carronades**, while Westphal landed some of his men to outflank the Americans. Seeing this, the defenders, all **Maryland Militia**, fled. The British confiscated

flour and oats and cattle, the latter of which they paid for. They disabled the guns and burned five vessels and storehouses containing military supplies reportedly worth more than \$20,000. It was reported that they did not burn the private homes, and apparently there were no casualties.

Precise details are lacking, but it seems that Westphal made an attempt to advance farther up the Elk River to Elkton, but the strength of the **militia musketry** that he met caused him to return to the *Fantomé*.

FRENCHTOWN, MICHIGAN. The American post at **Frenchtown** (also known as the River Raisin) was located near the mouth of the Raisin River, which flows into **Lake Erie** about 25 miles southwest of **Detroit** near modern-day Monroe, Michigan. In 1812, it consisted of about 30 buildings on the north bank of the river, its three landward sides protected by a **palisade**.

FRENCHTOWN, MICHIGAN, FIRST BATTLE OF (18 January 1813). The advance portion of the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Harrison** established a winter camp on the **Maumee River** about 12 miles from its mouth. The force consisted of about 1,300 men commanded by Brigadier General **James Winchester**. He learned that a small British force occupied **Frenchtown**, about 35 miles north of his camp, and ordered a detachment to go there and capture the British supplies. After a journey of two days through the snow, Lieutenant Colonel William Lewis with about 550 men of the Fifth **Kentucky Militia** and Lieutenant Colonel John Allen with about 100 of the First Kentucky Rifle Regiment reached Frenchtown on 18 January and attacked. The British force consisted of about 100 men of the **Essex County Militia** and a **bombardier** of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with one **howitzer** and 400 natives, mainly **Potawatomi** and **Wyandot** under Major Ebenezer Reynolds. The British withdrew slowly and effectively, losing 15 natives killed, two militiamen, and one Potawatomi captured, while the Americans had 12 killed and 55 wounded before falling back to occupy Frenchtown.

FRENCHTOWN, MICHIGAN, SECOND BATTLE OF (22 January 1813). When he heard that his detachment of **Kentucky Militia**

had captured **Frenchtown** on 18 January, Brigadier General **James Winchester** set out to join them with about 325 men from the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** under Colonel Samuel Wells, the First and Second Kentucky Militia, and the First Kentucky Rifles. He reached Frenchtown on 20 January and encamped the **regular** force outside the **palisade** of the village while the **militia** remained within it.

The British who had withdrawn from Frenchtown on 18 January reached **Fort Amherstburg** the next day, at which point Colonel **Henry Procter** decided to launch a counterattack. He assembled a force consisting of about 240 men of the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, 60 from the **Royal Newfoundland Regiment**, 20 of the **Royal Artillery Regiment**, a few from the **10th Battalion of Veterans**, 20 of the **British Indian Department** men, 30 from the **Provincial Marine**, various other officers, and between 600 and 800 natives (**Chippewa**, **Delaware**, **Mingo**, **Ottawa**, **Potawatomi**, and **Wyandot**) under **Roundhead**. Procter had his force in place on 22 January and opened fire with six small **field guns** and an **infantry** attack around dawn. The militia within the palisade put up a strong fight, but Wells's regulars suffered badly in the open, as did a portion of militia with them. They eventually broke and ran for cover on the south shore of the river, where many were hunted down and killed by the natives. Winchester ended up with this group and was captured, stripped, and brought to Procter. After six hours of fighting, the British had been unable to capture the village, so Procter advised Winchester to surrender because he could not guarantee the conduct of the natives. Winchester conceded, and the remaining Americans marched out and grounded their arms. Concerned by a report he had heard that Brigadier General **William Harrison** was advancing toward Frenchtown with reinforcements, Procter gathered his men and prisoners together and hurried back to Fort Amherstburg.

Procter suffered 24 killed and 161 wounded among his own force (half the detachment of the 41st were casualties), and this considerably weakened his force at Fort Amherstburg. Winchester lost nearly 400 men killed (including Lieutenant Colonel Lewis) and missing, while 550 were prisoners and about three dozen escaped to safety. Losses among the native forces were not reported.

The defeat was a sharp setback for Harrison's campaign, but the

brutal way in which the natives killed **prisoners of war** during and after the battle provoked a need for vengeance among the Americans, especially Kentuckians, who coined the phrase, “**Remember the Raisin!**”

FRIGATE. This type of **ship-rigged** vessel originally carried about 30 guns but was later improved to carry more than 40 guns. It was suitable to serve as a **fleet** scout or independent cruiser. In the **RN**, they were **fourth-rates** and **fifth-rates**. The **USN** appears to have identified a warship of this type as the U.S. frigate *Constitution*, for example. To simplify matters herein, such vessels have been identified as the USS *Constitution* and so forth.

FRIGATES-IN-FRAME. In 1813, several submissions were made to the **Admiralty** proposing that warships could be sent to the Great Lakes in parts from the naval yards of Britain along with all their fittings, rigging, and armament. The Admiralty put such a plan in motion early in 1814 and sent everything necessary to construct two 38-gun **frigates** and two 18-gun **brigs** to Canada that spring. To build and sail the vessels, the Admiralty also transported hundreds of shipwrights and 900 **RN** personnel under Captain **George Downie**.

The men and “frigates-in-frame” arrived in Canada in June and July 1814. When they learned of the scheme, Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** and Commodore **Sir James Yeo** ruled it impractical but followed orders as well as they could. Because of the strain under which the transport system was already working in Canada, a private contractor was hired to transport the pieces for one frigate to **Kings-ton**, where it was constructed and altered to carry more guns and was launched on 24 December as HMS *Psyche*. The parts for the other vessels remained at **Montreal** until after the war.

FRIZZEN. *See* MUSKET.

FROLIC (RN). Commander **Thomas Whinyates** commanded the *Frolic* when it was captured by the USS *Wasp* (1813), Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, north of **Bermuda** on 18 October 1812. Hours later, HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, took posses-

sion of both badly damaged **sloops**. The *Frolic* was beyond repair and was broken up in 1813.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1806, Bridport, UK. Actual armament: (1813) two 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

FROLIC (USN). While on its first cruise and under Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge**, the *Frolic* was captured by HMS *Orpheus*, Captain **Hugh Pigot**, and HM Schooner *Shelburne*, Lieutenant **David Hope**, in the Florida Straits on 20 April 1814. The **RN** bought the **sloop** and changed its name to *Florida*. It was broken up in 1819.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1813, Boston. Actual armament: (1813) two 12-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 119' 6" bp × 32' × 14' 2" dh, 509 tons. Crew: 140.

FRONTENAC COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Frontenac County was located around **Kingston** and was part of the Midland District of **UC**. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, as was a **company of artillery**.

FRONTIER LIGHT INFANTRY (LC Militia). During the early months of 1813, **Sir George Prevost** approved the formation of three 50-man **companies** from the **LC Militia** to serve for 18 months or until the war ended. They were to be stationed in the **Richelieu River** area, freeing part of the **Canadian Voltigeurs** for service in **UC**. In the spring and summer, they recruited and then supported individuals in **Vermont** who smuggled horses, cattle, sheep, and other foodstuffs into **LC**. Elements of the **unit** were at the **skirmishes at Odelltown** (20 September 1813 and 28 June 1814) and the **battle of Lacolle Mill** (30 March 1814).

One of its prominent officers was Joseph St. Valier Mallioux.

FULTON'S MACHINES. *See* TORPEDOES.

– G –

GAINES, EDMUND PENDLETON (1777–1849). Gaines was born in **Virginia** and grew up in **North Carolina** and **Tennessee**. He en-

tered the **U.S. Army** as an **ensign** in 1797 and rose to **lieutenant** but was discharged in 1800. The next year, he rejoined with that rank and was on station in the southern states, ending up as a **captain** in the **Second U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, commanding at Fort Stoddert, **Alabama**, in 1807. He took a leave to study law but rejoined the army in March 1812 as a **major** in the **Eighth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. In July, he became the **lieutenant colonel** of the **Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** at Natchez and in the autumn joined Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813) as his **adjutant general**.

In March 1813, Gaines advanced to be **colonel** of the **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, continuing with Harrison and reoccupying **Detroit** while Harrison invaded southwestern **UC** near **Amherstburg** in September. Gaines then made a speedy journey to join Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) and fought at the **battle of Cryslers's Farm** (11 November) in Brigadier General **Leonard Covington's** Third Brigade.

He was promoted to **brigadier general** in January 1814 and commanded the military at **Sackets Harbor**. In July, he was ordered to go to the **Niagara Peninsula** to take command of the Left Division at **Fort Erie** in the place of Major General **Jacob Brown**, who had been severely wounded at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July) and temporarily replaced by Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley**.

Gaines arrived at Fort Erie on 4 August and made many improvements in the expanded **fortifications** before the British assault on 15 August. For the successful defense of the fort, Gaines was **brevetted** to **major general** and later awarded commemorative **swords** from Tennessee, **Virginia**, and **New York**. Gaines was severely wounded on 28 August when a British **shell** hit his accommodations, and he was removed from action for the rest of the war.

Gaines was voted a gold medal by the **U.S. Congress**, and he remained in the army through the rest of his life, having a significant influence on its development during the first half of the 19th century. Gaines died of cholera in **New Orleans**.

GALLATIN, ABRAHAM, ALFONSE ALBERT (1761–1849). Secretary of the treasury and peace commissioner. Born into a Swiss

family of great heritage and considerable means, Gallatin, though orphaned at nine years of age, was well educated and prepared to pursue any career of importance when he and a friend left Switzerland in 1780 to go to the **United States**. He did not fight in the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), although he was in a **militia unit** mobilized briefly in **Massachusetts**. He became a land speculator in **Pennsylvania** and was briefly that state's senator and then a congressman. In the latter post, he rose to prominence as a leading **Republican** with superior skills in finance. He joined President **Thomas Jefferson**'s cabinet in 1801 as the secretary of the treasury.

Gallatin was influential in **Washington**, but most of his efforts to create responsible fiscal policies were ruined by the trade war conducted by the United States, Britain, and France in the years leading up to the War of 1812. Financing the war greatly aggravated the situation and forced Gallatin to secure difficult loans to cover the nation's war needs. In addition, Gallatin was in sharp disagreement with some of the leading Republicans, such as **Samuel Smith**, and by early 1813 he believed his effectiveness was ruined. Gallatin asked President **James Madison** to appoint him as a peace commissioner with **James Bayard** and **John Quincy Adams** in response to Czar Alexander I's offer to mediate a settlement with Britain. Although this effort failed, Gallatin remained in Europe and was part of the commission that developed the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). During these proceedings, he proved his worth as an intelligent and reasonable negotiator who could calm the passionate extremes of Adams and **Henry Clay** (who, with **Jonathan Russell**, had joined the commission) and consistently present a resolute position to the British; although Adams was the nominal head of the commission, Gallatin emerged as its true leader.

Following the war, Gallatin maintained his position of prominence in the government, serving for seven years as the minister to France and one year as the minister in England. After 1827, he retired from government service but remained actively involved in finance and societal matters until the end of his days.

GALLEY. This was a large **gunboat** without a deck, carrying one or two guns, with a simple rig and a bank of oars, or sweeps, on either side. It was meant for inshore fighting because of its shallow draft

and maneuverability. The galleys built by the **USN** on **Lake Champlain** in 1814 typically measured 75 feet long and 15 feet wide, had a 24-pdr **long gun** in the bow and 42-pdr **carronade** in the stern, pulled 40 oars, and had two short masts with a single sail each. Galleys were built at **Sackets Harbor** in 1814, and at least one galley operated in Captain **Joshua Barney's** **flotilla** out of **Baltimore**.

GAMBIER, JAMES, LORD (1756–1833). This officer was born into a naval family of influence and was listed on ships' books from the age of 11. He attained a **commission** as **lieutenant** in the **RN** in 1777 and was made a **master and commander** the next year and a **post captain** in 1779. He saw some service during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), was on **half pay** for nearly a decade, and then was employed in the 1790s, winning notice for his conduct in a major **fleet** action. In 1795, Gambier was given a peerage, rose to the rank of **rear admiral**, and became part of the **Admiralty** board. Between then and 1814, Gambier saw service afloat, had two more terms of dubious distinction with the Admiralty, and became embroiled in a couple of bitter RN controversies, one of them involving Thomas, Lord Cochrane.

Having risen to **admiral** in 1814 and without a command afloat, Gambier was chosen to join **William Adams** and **Henry Goulburn** on the commission charged with negotiating peace with the **United States** at Ghent. Although they put much effort into the task, Gambier and the others had to refer every element of negotiations to Prime Minister **Lord Liverpool**, his cabinet, and advisers in London. After numerous meetings and long delays, they succeeded in developing the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814).

Gambier did not see active service at sea again. He was made a **GCB** in 1815 and became admiral of the fleet in 1830.

GANANOQUE, UC. This village was located about 20 miles from **Kingston** down the **St. Lawrence River** and served as a depot on that route.

GANANOQUE, UC, RAID ON (21 September 1812). Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** sent Captain **Benjamin Forsyth** and his company of the **First U.S. Regiment of Riflemen**, stationed at **Sackets**

Harbor, and some militia (totaling about 100) to seize munitions at **Gananoque**. They went in open boats down the **St. Lawrence River** and landed before dawn on 21 September and were opposed by about 100 British **militia** of the 2nd **Leeds County** Rifle Company under Lieutenant Levi Soper. After an exchange of volleys, the Americans charged, and the British fled. Forsyth's men captured dozens of **muskets** and barrels of ammunition, burned provisions and a store, and ransacked a private home. The British suffered as many as 10 or 15 casualties and about 10 taken prisoner. Forsyth suffered one dead and 10 wounded.

A British party set out from **Kingston** to intercept Forsyth. They missed him but landed at Burton's Point, where they destroyed a **blockhouse** and several boats.

GARRISON. A garrison was a force housed in a **fort** for the purpose of defending it against an enemy, for controlling the location population, or for taking up winter quarters.

GARRISON CARRIAGE. This was a heavily built gun carriage mounted on small, often iron-rimmed wheels known as **trucks** and used inside a fixed position such as a **battery** or **bastion**.

GARRISON GUN. This was a piece of **artillery** mounted on a **garrison carriage**.

GCB (GRAND CROSS OF THE BATH). *See* KNIGHTHOOD.

GENERAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

GENERAL HORSFORD (USN). *See* *VIXEN* (1813).

GENERAL HUNTER (PM/RN). This vessel, rigged as a **brig**, was part of Commander **Robert Barclay's** **squadron** captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was sold as a **merchantman** in 1815.

Type: 12-gun brig. Launch: 1807, **Amherstburg, UC**, as a **schooner**. Actual armament: (1813) two 6-pdr lg, four 4-pdr lg, two 2-pdr

lg, two 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 54' length of keel \times 18' \times 8' dh, 93 tons. Crew: 45.

GENERAL PIKE (USN). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** used this as his flagship on **Lake Ontario** through most of 1813. Its **battery of long guns** made it the most powerful **ship** on the lakes during the period and gave **Chauncey's squadron** an advantage over Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron**. It was laid up in 1815 and sold as a hulk in 1825.

Type: 26-gun **corvette**. Launch: 1813, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: (1813) 26 24-pdr lg. Dimensions: 143' gd \times 38' \times 15' dh, 900 tons. Crew: 432.

GENESEE RIVER. This river flowed north through **New York** into **Lake Ontario** about 70 miles west of the **Niagara River** at modern-day Rochester, New York. The village of **Charlotte** was at its mouth.

GENESEE RIVER, ENGAGEMENT OFF THE (11 September 1813). On 7 September, Commodores **Isaac Chauncey** and **Sir James Yeo** began another in their series of maneuvers on **Lake Ontario** between **York** and the **Niagara River**. The morning of 11 September found the two of them slowly approaching the **Genesee River** from the northwest with Chauncey trailing. Around noon, **Yeo's squadron** fell into a lull close to shore. Chauncey saw an opportunity to pounce on the British, but the falling wind prevented most of his **schooners** from getting close enough to hit Yeo's vessels with their **long guns**. Only the ***General Pike*** and ***Sylph*** appear to have come into range and scored a number of hits during a bombardment that lasted two or three hours. Late in the afternoon, just as the Americans were drawing closer, a wind sprang up, and Yeo skillfully sailed away into the night under galelike conditions and escaped. Chauncey was held back by having to tow some of his sluggish schooners in order to keep his squadron together. The British suffered five killed and five wounded and damage to their rigging. British fire, which had been very limited, inflicted no damage on the Americans.

GEORGE, FORT. This British post was located near the mouth of the **Niagara River** adjacent to the town of **Niagara, UC**. Construction

began in 1796, and by 1812 the **fort** consisted of six **bastions** joined by **palisade curtains**, but the whole was badly in need of repair, and much work was done on it through the summer of 1812. The events of the war brought many changes to the structure of the fort.

GEORGE, FORT, BATTLE OF (27 May 1813). It had been the intention of Major General **Henry Dearborn** and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** to capture **Fort George** right after the attack on **York** and then occupy the **Niagara Peninsula**. But the **battle of York** (27 April 1813) so depleted and exhausted the American force that it was not until the fourth week of May that they began to put their plans in motion, having about 4,700 men in camp around **Fort Niagara**.

Their assault on Fort George began with a bombardment from Fort Niagara and its outlying **batteries** early on 25 May, the **hot shot** of which set the wooden buildings in Fort George ablaze. Late on 26 May, Chauncey, assisted by Master Commandant **Oliver Perry**, laid out buoys to show where Chauncey's **schooners** could moor the next morning to fire on the British outlying batteries. Before dawn, the American force embarked in **bateaux** near Fort Niagara and set out for the Canadian shore. Dearborn was too sick to command and placed Major General **Morgan Lewis** in charge, although the plan for the attack is credited to the **adjutant general**, Colonel **Winfield Scott**. While some of Chauncey's **gunboats** engaged the British batteries just after dawn in calm and foggy conditions, the rest of the **squadron** covered the assault force consisting of scores of bateaux. Scott led an advance force of about 400, including elements of his **Second Regiment of Artillery** (serving as **infantry**), the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** under Major **Benjamin Forsyth**, and the **Fifteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. Elements of the **Fifth, Sixth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **U.S. Regiment of Light Artillery**; the **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery**; a detachment of **U.S. Marines**; and two **companies** of **12-month volunteers** under Lieutenant Colonel Francis McClure were formed into three **brigades**, the first under Brigadier General **John Boyd**, the second under Brigadier General **William Winder**, and the third, intended as a reserve, under Brigadier General **John Chandler**. No precise tally

appears to have been made for the assault force, which must have numbered close to 2,500, excluding Chauncey's squadron.

Brigadier General **John Vincent** commanded at Fort George with a force of about 1,000 **regulars** from the **1/8th** and **1/49th Regiments of Foot**, the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles** and the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles**, and the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**. He also had about 300 of the **Lincoln Militia**, the **Colored Corps**, and the **Niagara Provincial Light Dragoons** as well as about 60 **Grand River Six Nations** warriors under **John Norton**. Vincent split his force into three parts, one at Fort George, a second in the town of **Niagara**, and the third at **Two Mile Creek**.

Led by Lieutenant Colonel **Christopher Myers**, the Glengarries, seconded by the Royal Newfoundland Fencibles, opposed Scott's landing at Two Mile Creek in what became the most intense fighting of the day but were pushed back. Vincent sent reinforcements to his advance force, but Boyd's brigade landed successfully, followed by Winder's. Myers was badly wounded and captured, and Lieutenant Colonel **John Harvey** took command at the front. The fire from the gunboats that had silenced the British batteries focused on Vincent's right flank, while the rifle companies harassed his left flank. Vincent decided to rally his force and retreat after ordering the guns in Fort George to be **spiked** and the **magazine** blown up, much as Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** had done at York. He quickly marched south to **Queenston** and, joined by the force that had **garrisoned** the upper Niagara under Lieutenant Colonel **Cecil Bisshopp**, headed for **Burlington Heights**.

Scott led the advance through Niagara and into Fort George, where he was injured when the magazine blew up. He wanted to pursue Vincent, but Lewis, who had finally landed and taken command, forbade it. Scott's plan had included that Colonel **James Burn** would block the road to Queenston with two **squadrons** of his **Second Light Dragoons**, but Burn reached that point after Vincent had passed. Batteries at **Black Rock** had bombarded the British at **Fort Erie** from early morning as a diversion; the British abandoned the fort, which was occupied by elements of the Twelfth Infantry under Lieutenant Colonel James Preston.

For the Americans, the battle failed to achieve complete success by not capturing Vincent's force. They suffered 39 dead and 150

wounded, while the British had 52 regulars killed and 44 wounded and 262 missing. One account states that the Lincoln Militia suffered 85 casualties and that the native warriors lost at least two chiefs. Dearborn reported that 507 militiamen were granted **parole** soon after the battle, many of them using the opportunity to obtain a reason for not taking up arms.

GEORGE, FORT, BLOCKADE OF (1 July–9 October 1813). Following the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813), Major General **John Vincent** pushed elements of his force closer to the American positions near **Fort George**. After the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June), this noose was tightened and advanced farther when Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** arrived on the **Niagara Peninsula**, having recently assumed command in UC. By 1 July, the British had moved their line to Four Mile Creek and north of **Queenston**, hemming the Americans into the close vicinity of **Niagara** and Fort George. The Americans established their defensive line with six pickets at points between the **Niagara River** and the mouth of **Two Mile Creek**. Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** began to intercept supplies coming by water so that the Americans had to depend solely on the overland route from **Buffalo**.

During the **blockade**, the American force numbered over 6,600 officers and men at its strongest, including elements of these **units**, some of which were at **Fort Niagara** and at points along the Niagara River: **Fifth, Sixth, Eighth, Ninth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-first, Twenty-second, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles**; the **Second Light Dragoons**; and the **First, Second, Third U.S. Regiments of**, and the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. They were eventually supported by the **Canadian Volunteers**, groups of **New York Militia**, **12-month volunteers**, and parties of the **New York Six Nations**.

British forces varied in strength during this period but rarely stood over 4,000. Elements of these **regular** units were the **1/1st, 1/8th, 1/41st, 1/49th, 2/89th, 100th, and 104th Regiments of Foot**; the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles** and the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles**; the **Canadian Voltigeurs**; the **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons**; and the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**. Militia forces in-

cluded elements of the 2nd and 3rd **Lincoln County Militia**, the **Incorporated Militia**, **Niagara Provincial Light Dragoons**, **Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers**, and the **Corps of Artificers (Colored Corps)**. In addition, various groups from the **Grand River Six Nations**, **Ottawas** and **Ojibwas** from Lake Huron, the **Missis-saugas**, and the **Seven Nations** people from LC were present at one time or another.

From the beginning of July, there were skirmishes almost every day, with raids and engagements happening frequently. Among the most notable actions were the raid at **Fort Schlosser** (5 July), the **raid at Black Rock** (11 July), and numerous **skirmishes at the Ball property**.

Brigadier General **John Boyd** took command after Major General **Henry Dearborn** received orders to leave to the field to recover his health. Boyd and his officers attempted to outflank the British with a raid on **Burlington Heights** at the end of July; Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** transported Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott** with 250 infantry there on 30 July, but, seeing the strength of the British defensive position, they changed their minds and went to make a **raid on York** (31 July–1 August). Boyd and Chauncey planned to launch a combined attack on de Rottenburg's force on 8 August, but the arrival of Yeo's squadron prevented it. The day before, Brigadier General **Peter Porter** crossed the Niagara River four miles north of **Fort Erie** with 200 volunteers and 200 native warriors, marched briefly down the river, seized cattle and personal property, and crossed back.

Sir George Prevost arrived at de Rottenburg's headquarters at St. Davids on 21 August, and three days later the British mounted a full-scale "demonstration" against the American defenses. Although they pushed through the enemy pickets and even entered the town of Niagara, the British were unable to penetrate the positions around Fort George and withdrew. Casualties on both sides were light; the British took about 70 prisoners. De Rottenburg considered besieging Fort George but knew he had to also **invest** Fort Niagara and receive full and constant support from Yeo, so he rejected the idea.

Major General **James Wilkinson** arrived at Fort George to take command on 4 September. His goal was to prepare an army to join another force at **Sackets Harbor** for his **St. Lawrence River campaign**. He began moving troops to Fort Niagara late in the month and

then, leaving Scott in command, departed with about 4,000 men early in October.

Both armies had suffered from the hot and wet summer, which weakened the forces with rampant sickness and helped provoke large numbers of deserters. Discovering that Wilkinson had set out for the other end of the lake, de Rottenburg sent a reinforcement to Kingston and began to withdraw. When he heard on 9 October about the results of the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October), he quickly retreated to Burlington, ending the blockade.

GEORGETOWN AND FREDERICKTOWN, MARYLAND, RAID AT (6 May 1813). After the raid at **Havre de Grace** (3 May 1813,) Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** decided to explore the Sassafras River in the northeast corner of **Chesapeake Bay**. With Commander Henry Byng of the HM Sloop *Mohawk* in command, a force of seamen, **Royal Marines**, and **Royal Regiment of Artillery** embarked in a flotilla of boats late on 5 May and headed up the Sassafras. Delayed by their lack of familiarity with the area, the British did not approach the village until the morning. Along the way, they captured two men in a boat whom they directed to go to the village of Georgetown (comprising 20 or 30 homes) and Fredericktown (15 or 20 homes), across the river from it, and urge the people to offer no resistance or pay the consequences.

As the British approached the towns 400 **Maryland Militia**, with one piece of **artillery**, fired on them. The British answered with the guns and **rockets** in their boats and by landing the **marines**, prompting the **militia** to retreat. Cockburn ordered the burning of any uninhabited home in both places (those people who had remained meant him no harm, he reasoned) as well as four **schooners** and stores of sugar, lumber, leather, and other merchandise; there were reports of looting and wanton destruction of private goods. In the raid, the British suffered five men wounded, and one American casualty was reported.

When he returned to the ships on 7 May, a delegation from nearby Charlestown, Maryland, approached Cockburn to assure him that they would not oppose a landing at their town.

GEORGIA. Georgia was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Milledgeville. In 1810, its population was about 252,000. In June

1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—three for, 0 against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governors were David B. Mitchell (**Republican**, 1809–1813) and Peter Early (Republican, 1813–1815).

GEORGIA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1810, there were 26,000 officers and men in the **standing militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 3,500. Elements of the militia were mobilized for periods during the war and saw some brief action during the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815).

GEORGIAN BAY. Equal in size to some of the world's largest lakes, Georgian Bay is 577 feet above sea level and drains into **Lake Huron**.

GHENT, TREATY OF (24 December 1814). Almost from its beginning, the adversaries sought an end to the war. Immediately after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), Secretary of State **James Monroe** instructed **Jonathan Russell**, the U.S. chargé d'affaires in London, to inform the British government that hostilities could be ended by its revocation of the **orders in council** and its promise to stop the **impressment** of Americans. While this correspondence crossed the ocean, news that Prime Minister **Lord Liverpool**'s government had lifted the orders on 23 June headed the other way. When Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** received the dispatch at Quebec on 30 July, he arranged the **Prevost–Dearborn Armistice** (August–September 1812) to give President **James Madison** and his cabinet time to consider the new situation. With impressment still in place, however, Madison refused to cease hostilities.

On 20 September 1812, Czar Alexander I communicated an offer to mediate peace negotiations through his foreign minister to **John Quincy Adams**, the U.S. ambassador in St. Petersburg. The Russians saw the war as a potential threat to their trade and a distraction to the military and naval power of their new ally, Britain. Adams transmitted this offer to **Washington**, where Madison accepted it without determining the British stance and in March 1813 nominated Secretary

of the Treasury **Albert Gallatin** and the **Federalist** senator **James Bayard** to form a peace commission with Adams. They sailed from **Chesapeake Bay** on 11 May equipped with extensive instructions on how to conduct a settlement and reached Gothenburg, Sweden, on 20 June and St. Petersburg on 21 July. Weeks went by before they learned that the British did not want a third party involved and that the Russian interest in the initiative wavered. After waiting for clarification and then traveling across Europe with the intention of going home, the commissioners learned late in the autumn that the British had made a formal proposal for direction negotiations in London or Gothenburg.

Madison accepted the British offer in January 1814 and nominated **Henry Clay** and **Jonathan Russell** as additional commissioners. After a difficult voyage in the U.S. Sloop *John Adams*, Clay and Russell reached Gothenburg on 13 April. Developments in Europe now delayed proceedings; **Napoleon** had abdicated, and the British were sending a massive reinforcement across the ocean for the purpose of punishing the Americans. Nevertheless, through dealings with **Lord Castlereigh**, the minister of foreign affairs, the Americans agreed to a neutral site close to London: the city of Ghent in Dutch Flanders (part of modern-day Belgium).

Liverpool's cabinet appointed three commissioners: Admiral **Lord Gambier**, undersecretary of war and the colonies; **Henry Goulburn**; and **William Adams**, a specialist in maritime and international law. For a variety of reasons, they did not sit down to negotiate with the Americans in Ghent until 8 August. It soon became obvious that they had to refer every issue, proposal, and counterproposal to Liverpool's cabinet. Secretary of War and the Colonies **Lord Bathurst** played the key role here in close consultation with Liverpool and Castlereigh (who was soon deeply involved at Vienna in a settlement of the European situation) and with the **Duke of Wellington** at Paris.

The initial meeting illuminated the issues at hand: impressment, neutral rights, various alterations to boundaries, a definition of **blockade**, American rights to fish in Canadian waters and process catches on unpopulated Canadian shores, British rights to navigate on the Mississippi River, the legitimacy of the Louisiana Purchase, navigation rights on the Great Lakes, armament on and around the lakes, the protection of aboriginal rights, and the creation of a new territory

for the aboriginal nations as a sort of buffer zone between **BNA** and the **United States**. The American commissioners had just received instructions from Monroe to drop impressment if it was the only outstanding issue, but the British proposals, especially concerning the natives and a buffer zone, provided plenty of fuel for debate. Over the next four months, the commissioners argued back and forth on these points. The Americans introduced the concept of status quo *ante bellum*, that is, a return to the prewar situation in all matters, in September, to which the British later responded with the principle of *uti possidetis*, each side keeping its captured territory. Numerous meetings were held, interspersed with long delays, mainly because the British commissioners lacked authority to act independently. The Americans quarreled among themselves with Clay and Adams frequently at odds. Gallatin emerged as the group's leader. Adjusting to the subtle changes in negotiations, the Americans maintained a strong position that gave them an upper hand over the often-termed "puppets" of the British cabinet.

Events of the war such as the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August 1814) and the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815) swung negotiations in favor of the British and then to the Americans when news arrived of British failures in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain Campaign** (August–September) and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). But Liverpool's cabinet was more concerned about issues arising after the defeat of Napoleon. The nation's coffers were nearly empty, the proposal of a new tax was widely opposed, merchants protested lost revenue because of the unpopular American war, negotiations at Vienna were not going well, and Wellington's occupation of Paris was facing a menacing resistance. Because of these factors, all the British principals advised a quick settlement with some semblance of honor. In December, negotiations moved toward this goal and ended with the signing of the treaty on the afternoon of 24 December 1814.

A little-known aspect of the treaty's circumstances was that Castlereagh and Bathurst heard a rumor that officials in Massachusetts had initiated the idea of making a separate arrangement with Britain.

The Treaty of Ghent consisted of 11 articles and was based on the principle of status quo *ante bellum*, with the exception of possession of islands in Passamaquoddy Bay between **Maine** and **New Bruns-**

wick. A commission was ordered to investigate this matter, as were other commissions to settle boundary issues and fishing and navigation rights, most of which required a review of conditions set by the Treaty of Paris (1783), which ended the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). A schedule was established concerning the legal seizure of **prizes** in different parts of the world, based on the latest date of ratification. All prisoners were to be returned, and the commissioners made a general statement deploring slavery. Although the treaty called for the Americans to stop hostilities with aboriginal nations and return their conquered lands to them, the issue of a buffer state was dropped. Similarly, there was no mention of impressment or trade restrictions or blockades.

The **Prince Regent** ratified the treaty on 28 December, and Madison, with the backing of the **U.S. Congress**, did the same on 16 February 1815. Many critics deplored the outcome of the war, but for the vast majority it was a relief to see it ended. The various commissions dealt with their relevant matters within a few years, although some issues were not finalized until early in the 20th century; the best known of these settlements was the **Rush–Bagot Agreement** (28–29 April 1817). While the U.S. government made treaties with the aboriginal nations, such as the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) and the **Treaties of Portage des Sioux** (July–September 1815), it managed to ignore the clause concerning conquered native lands and held onto the territory taken during the **Creek War** (1813–1814). Despite British assurances, the native peoples once more were handed the dirty end of the stick with the specter of future depredations looming ominously.

GIBBS, SAMUEL (?–1815). This officer's record begins when he joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1783. He spent several years with the **60th Regiment of Foot** in UC before being promoted to **lieutenant** and returned to Europe in 1792. By 1814, he had seen much action in Europe, the West Indies, South Africa, and Java and received accolades for his competence and bravery. Gibbs was promoted to **major general** in June of that year and sent as second in command to Lieutenant General **Sir Edward Pakenham** during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was mortally wounded during the



*The Signing of the Treaty of Ghent, 24 December 1814.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C5996*

final assault on New Orleans (8 January 1815). He had been made a **KCB** on 2 January 1815.

GIBSON, FORT, NEW YORK. In 1813, one of the batteries at **Black Rock, New York**, was referred to as Fort Gibson.

GLACIS. The downward-sloping plain outside of a **fortification** was its glacis.

GLEIG, GEORGE ROBERT (1796–1888). The son of a Scottish theologian, Gleig entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the 3rd Garrison Battalion in August 1812 and transferred with that rank into the **85th Regiment of Foot** the following January. With that **unit**, he was promoted to **lieutenant** and saw hard service during the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and when it ended went with the **regiment** to join Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814). He was at the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and

the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). The 85th was next part of **Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815), and so Gleig had firsthand knowledge of the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

Gleig went on **half pay** in 1816 and joined the clergy, eventually rising to chaplain general of the British forces. Gleig also began a successful writing career after the war, and among his best-known works is *The Campaign of the British Army at Washington and New Orleans in the Years 1814–1815* published in 1821. This tremendously detailed and compelling narrative exists in numerous forms and is one of the best eyewitness depictions of the war in print.

GLENGARRY COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Glengarry County was located on Lake St. Francis on the **St. Lawrence River** just above **Montreal** and was part of the Eastern District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its two **infantry regiments** in 1812, as were a **troop of dragoons** and a **rifle company**, elements of which participated in the **attack on French Mills** (23 November 1812), the **attack on Ogdensburg** (February 1813), the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** (10 November 1813), and the **raids on the Salmon River** (14–24 February 1814).

GLENGARRY LIGHT INFANTRY FENCIBLE REGIMENT (British army). Although its formation was proposed before the war, this **regiment** was finally raised early in 1812 to increase the size of the **regular** army in UC and LC. It was formed primarily of men from **Glengarry County**, UC, where there was a concentration of settlers who had belonged to a Scottish regiment disbanded in 1804. Most of the officers and enlistments were experienced men, and their competence in **light infantry** tactics made them an effective and widely employed force. They wore a distinctive green uniform similar to that of the British **rifle** regiment, the **95th Foot**.

Elements of the regiment were present during numerous actions, including the following: 1812, the **attack on French Mills** (23 November); 1813, the battles at **Ogdensburg** (22 February), **York** (27

April), **Fort George** (27 May), and **Sackets Harbor** (29 May) and the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October); 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Among its active and prominent officers during the war were Francis Battersby, Robert M. Cochrane, **Edward Baynes**, **James Fitzgibbon**, **George Macdonell**, and **Robert McDouall**.

GODLEY WOOD, BATTLE OF. *See* BALTIMORE, ATTACK ON (12–15 September 1814).

GOLD HUNTER. This **merchantman**, a 75-ton **schooner**, was leased briefly by the USN as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** in the spring of 1813.

GORDON, CHARLES (ca. 1778–1816). A native of **Maryland**, Gordon entered the USN as a **midshipman** in 1799 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1800. He served during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was promoted to **master commandant** in 1806. He commanded the USS *Chesapeake* under Commodore **James Barron** when it was intercepted by HMS *Leopard* in the incident that became known as the **Chesapeake–Leopard Affair** (22 June 1807). Dueling broke out among the officers involved, and Gordon was wounded late in 1807 in such a contest. A **court-martial** in February 1808 found him negligent for not ensuring the readiness of his **ship** to defend itself, but, unlike Barron, he was only reprimanded and kept in the service; it is said that his **Republican** connections helped him in this regard.

Ill health prompted Gordon to request a southern posting in 1811, and he was sent to **Baltimore**, where he was promoted to **captain** in 1812. In April 1813, Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** ordered Gordon to hire vessels at Baltimore (as some of their owners had offered) to form a flotilla for the protection of that place. It took weeks for him to obtain the vessels, alter them for service, and crew them, but he sailed in the fourth week of April with a **gunboat**—armed with one 24-pdr **long gun** (lg) and two 12-pdr **carronades** (crde)—and four **schooners**: *Revenge*, one 18-pdr lg, two 12-pdr lg,

and 14 12-pdr crde; *Comet*, two 9-pdr lg and 12 12-pdr crde; *Patapsco*, two 12-pdr lg and 12 12-pdr crde; and *Wasp*, one 9-pdr lg and two 9-pdr crde. Gordon made a cruise of 30 days down **Chesapeake Bay** and back to Baltimore during which he was frequently in sight of the British **warships** but never engaged them. He managed to move a few of their navigation buoys, but the British did not risk an action with Gordon. During this period, Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** executed raids in the northern reaches of the bay as part of Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813).

Gordon also helped facilitate Sailing Master Elijah Mix's scheme to use **torpedoes** against Warren's vessels. He was given command of the USS *Constellation* blockaded at **Norfolk, Virginia**, but was not able to get the ship to sea before peace was signed. Later he sailed in the **frigate** to the Mediterranean Sea, where he died of complications arising from his duel wound.

GORDON, HENRY CRANMER (?–1848). This officer joined the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1806, advanced to **midshipman**, and saw service in the West Indies, the **Newfoundland Station**, and the East Indies. He passed his **lieutenancy** exam early in 1814, but it was not until 4 February 1815 that he received a **commission** as lieutenant commanding HM Schooner *St. Lawrence*. On 26 February, while carrying dispatches through the Florida Straits, the American **privateer** *Chasseur* attacked and captured the *St. Lawrence*. A **court-martial** was certainly held for this loss, but the record does not show its outcome. It appears that Gordon did not see any further active service.

GORDON, SIR JAMES ALEXANDER (1782–1869). A Scot by birth, Gordon entered the **RN** as a **captain's servant** in 1793 and began a career that involved nearly continuous action against the French and their allies, including **fleet** and **squadron** actions, ship-to-ship fights, raids ashore, and so on. He attained a **commission** as **lieutenant** in 1800 and rose to **commander** in 1804 and **captain** the next year.

During an engagement with a French **frigate** in 1811, a round shot destroyed his left knee joint, necessitating the amputation of his

lower leg. He was back in command in HMS *Seahorse* the next year and in this frigate was sent in 1814 to be part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September).

Cochrane gave Gordon the important task of creating a diversion in the **Potomac River** while a 4,500-man expedition under Major General **Robert Ross** and Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** went up the **Patuxent River** and eventually effected the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August). **Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September) proved to be a complete success and led to the award of a **KCB** to him in January 1815.

Gordon was next ordered to the Gulf of Mexico, where he took command of a small **squadron** of warships operating out of the **Apalachicola River** and **Pensacola** on the **Florida** coast as part of **Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815). He was present at Major General **Andrew Jackson's successful capture of Pensacola** (7 November) and was with the fleet during the various actions at **New Orleans**.

Following the war, Gordon had several active commissions afloat and ashore. He eventually rose to **admiral** in 1854 and received a **GCB** the next year.

GORDON'S RAID ON THE POTOMAC RIVER (17 August–6 September 1814). On 16 August 1814, Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** ordered Captain **James Gordon** to sail up the **Potomac River** with a **squadron** of vessels (two **frigates**, three **bomb vessels**, the *Erebus* **rocket ship**, a **tender**, and a dispatch boat). His purpose was to create a diversion in support of a 4,500-man expedition on the **Patuxent River** commanded by Major General **Robert Ross** that led eventually to the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August).

Gordon's **squadron** entered the Potomac on 17 August. It took 10 days to travel 90 miles up the twisting, shoal-ridden river, and there was no trace of resistance from the **Virginia** or **Maryland** shores. On 27 August, Gordon anchored within range of **Fort Washington**, and his bomb vessels began to lob shells into it. There was no opposition, and the next morning as the bombardment renewed and Gordon prepared to attack, the **fort's magazine** blew up (apparently by the mistake of Captain Samuel Dyson, **Corps of Artillery**, whose small

garrison had fled). The British occupied the ruined fort, where they found 27 pieces of **spiked ordnance**.

Gordon now advanced six miles upriver to the thriving port of **Alexandria, Virginia**, where representatives of the populace agreed not to oppose his occupation. By 31 August, the British had filled 21 vessels with all nature of goods, commercial and military, without committing any act of aggression in the town and were ready to leave. Word reached Gordon that the American government had finally sent forces to oppose his return trip.

On 29 August, Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** ordered Commodore **John Rodgers** to head for the Potomac with 650 men and stop Gordon's escape. He sent a similar order to Captain **David Porter**, and Captain **Oliver Perry** arrived to help with a detachment of **USN** personnel. Late on 3 September, Rodgers sent three fire ships down on the British, but the effort failed. Gordon anchored to await a suitable breeze so that he could run past a **battery** under Porter on the Virginia shore just below Mount Vernon. He sent his bomb vessels to attack the battery. Having fought off another fire **ship** and a detachment of **infantry** on shore, he sailed down on 5 September to engage the battery with his frigates while the others slipped by, inflicting nearly 30 casualties to Porter's men. Further down, a battery under Perry nearly threatened the *Erebus* rocket ship when it ran aground, but the other warships gave support with firepower and muscle power, and the squadron continued.

On 6 September, Gordon returned to the Chesapeake, having suffered only seven killed and 35 wounded in return for invading deep into American territory and coming away with a horde of valuable **prizes** and cargoes. It had been a phenomenal accomplishment of naval skill and determination.

GOSPORT NAVY YARD. A private shipyard was opened in 1767 at Gosport, **Virginia**, across the Elizabeth River from **Norfolk**. **Merchantmen** and British warships were built and serviced there until the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). It was burned by the British in 1779 but went back into business after war. In 1794, the property was leased for use by the U.S. government, and in 1797 construction began there on the USS *Chesapeake*. The yard was bought for the **USN** in 1801. The British **blockade** kept the USS

Constellation hemmed in there through the war and greatly curtailed activity in the yard.

GOSSELIN, GERARD (?–1859). Gosselin's service record is thin. He is known to have entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1787 after seven years as a **lieutenant** in the **Royal Marines**. He rose in rank through several **regiments** and in 1813 was promoted to **major general**. Gosselin went to **Nova Scotia** with regiments sent from Europe following the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814). He had command of a **brigade** during the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815), where Lieutenant General **Sir John Sherbrooke** appointed him commander of the occupation forces.

GOULBURN, HENRY (1784–1856). Born in London and well educated, Goulburn first gained a seat in Parliament in 1808. In August 1812, he became the undersecretary of war and the colonies and with **Lord Bathurst** as his superior dealt directly with many of the matters concerning the prosecution of the war in Canada, corresponding frequently with Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** and his senior officers. In July 1814, he was appointed to join **Lord Gambier** and **William Adams** as a commissioner for peace negotiations with the **United States** at Ghent and eventually became the head negotiator. Although they put much effort into the task, Goulburn and the others had to refer every element of negotiations to Prime Minister **Lord Liverpool**, his cabinet, and advisers in London. After numerous meetings and long delays, they succeeded in developing the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Following the war, he remained actively involved in politics, rising to a place of prominence.

GOVERNOR SIMCOE (PM/RN). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** nearly captured this British **merchantman** as it sailed into **Kingston** on 11 November 1812. The British purchased it during the winter and converted it for war service. Commodore **Sir James Yeo** renamed it the *Sir Sidney Smith* in May 1813, and it participated in numerous actions that year and in 1814. It was renamed the *Magnet* in May 1814 and was blown up by its crew at 10 Mile Creek near **Niagara, UC**, to avoid capture by Commodore **Chauncey's** **squadron** on 5 August.

Type: 12-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1793, Kingston, UC, as a merchantman. Actual armament: (1813) two 12-pdr lg, 10 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 74' ld × 18' 6" × 12' dh, 137 tons. Crew: 109.

GOVERNOR TOMPKINS (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service in 1812 as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron**. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 6-gun schooner. Launch: 1810, **Oswego, New York**, as **merchantman** *Charles and Ann*. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr lg, one 24-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, two 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 96 tons. Crew: 64.

GOWIE, FORT. *See* FORT GOWRIS.

GOWRIS, FORT. This small American work, sometimes identified as Fort Gowie, was built on the Canadian side of the **Detroit River** opposite **Detroit** during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812) and was destroyed by the Americans when they withdrew to Detroit during the second week of August 1812.

GRAND RIVER. This large river flows into **Lake Erie** about 22 miles west of **Fort Erie**.

GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS. The British purchased a tract of land along the **Grand River**, about 50 miles west of the **Niagara River**, as a reserve for members of the **Six Nations** following the **American War of Independence** in 1783. In time, members of the **Delaware**, Nanticoke, Tutelo, **Creek**, and Cherokee nations also settled there, and in 1812 the population of the reserve was just over 1,900. Their relations with the **Indian Department** were managed by William Claus, who had frequent disputes with **John Norton**, one of their key leaders. The Six Nations attitude toward neutrality versus alliances with the British or Americans fluctuated considerably during the war.

Elements of the Grand River people participated in the following actions: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October); 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), **Beaver Dams** (24 June), the

blockade of Fort George (July–October), and the **Ball property** (8 July). A party of Grand River warriors is said to have burned the **Tuscarora** village near **Lewiston, New York**, following the British raid there on 19 December. In 1814, Norton led his warriors at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

GRAPESHOT. This type of projectile consisted of a canvas shroud quilted over nine small **round shot** (resembling a bunch of large grapes) positioned around a iron spindle fitted into a circular iron plate. It was generally reserved for use on warships and often confused with **cannister**, especially in many anecdotal records of land actions. Grapeshot was not suitable for brass **ordnance**, as the shot tended to damage the bore of the guns.

GRAY, ANDREW (?–1813). Gray joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in the 87th Regiment of Foot in 1805. By 1811, he had advanced to **captain** in the **Nova Scotia Fencible Regiment**. Elements of this **unit** were posted in **LC**, and from late in 1811, Gray began reporting on the state of the **PM**, working closely with Major General **Isaac Brock** and **Sir George Prevost** to make improvements in that department. He was eventually made the deputy assistant **quartermaster general** in the Canadian command, with special responsibility for the **PM**. He was highly critical of the officers of the **PM** and the condition of the **squadron** on **Lake Ontario** and helped Commander **Robert Barclay** and then Commodore **Sir James Yeo** when the **RN** took over the command in late April and May 1813. Gray had also been critical of Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** and spread word of local dissatisfaction with him for his defense of **Fort Erie** and **Chippawa** during Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November and 1 December); Prevost later communicated his displeasure with Gray's conduct.

Gray organized the expedition that led to the **skirmishes at Akwesasne and French Mills** (23 November 1812). He took an active part in the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May 1813), where he was shot through the body and died. His son James, **104th Regiment of Foot**,

was there but was forced to leave his father's body behind; Andrew Gray was subsequently buried at Sackets.

GRAY, FORT. This **battery** was built on Lewiston Heights near the village of **Lewiston, New York**, during the summer of 1812 and was named for Nicholas Gray, an aide to Governor Daniel Tompkins, who served briefly with the **New York Militia** as an engineer. It housed two 18-pdr **long guns** during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October) and played a significant role in that action. In 1813, a British force under Major General **Phineas Riall** captured the battery during the **raid on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December).

GREENBUSH. A military camp for the **U.S. Army** was established three miles east of the village of East Greenbush, **New York**, about seven miles southeast of Albany, New York. The cantonment covered 400 acres and had accommodations for 4,000 men.

GREENVILLE, TREATY OF (22 July 1814). This **Ohio** settlement, the frequent scene of treaty signings prior to the war, was located about 40 miles northwest of Dayton. On 22 July 1814, **William Harrison** and **Lewis Cass** signed a treaty of peace there with representatives from various tribes of the **Delaware, Kickapoo, Miami, Potawatomi, Seneca, Shawnee, and Wyandot** nations to ally themselves with the U.S. government.

GRENADIER COMPANY. The grenadier company was the right **flank company** when its **regiment** was in formation. Men were selected for this **company** on the basis of their military prowess and strong build.

GRENVILLE COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Greenville County was located around **Prescott** and was part of the Johnstown District of **UC**. Elements of its 1st and 2nd Regiments participated in the **skirmish at Touissant's Island** (16 September 1812) and the **attack on Ogdensburg** (22 February 1813).

GRIFFITH (COLPOYS), EDWARD (1767–1832). The nephew of the future Admiral Sir John Colpoys, Griffith entered the **RN** in 1778

and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1783 and to **post captain** in 1794. He gained wide experience in numerous actions with the French and their allies and advanced to **rear admiral** in August 1812.

Griffith was posted to the **North America Station** during 1813 under Admiral **Sir John Warren** and on the appointment of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** to that station late in the year was put in charge of the northern division, the coast from New England to **Quebec**. In that capacity, he worked with Lieutenant General **Sir John Sherbrooke** to orchestrate the nearly bloodless **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

Griffith changed his surname to Colpoys in 1821 after inheriting his uncle's estate. He was made a **KCB** in 1831, by which time he had advanced to **vice admiral**.

GROWLER (1809) (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1812. It was captured by Commodore **Yeo's squadron** in August 1813 and renamed the *Hamilton* (**1813**), then recaptured by Chauncey in October 1813 and sold in 1815.

Type: 5-gun schooner. Launch: 1809, **Ogdensburg, New York**, as the **merchantman** *Experiment*. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr, four 4-pdr lg. Dimensions: 53 tons. Crew: 31.

GROWLER (1812) (USN). The USN purchased this vessel and converted it for war service on **Lake Champlain** late in 1812, but it was lost in the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler** (3 June 1813). The British renamed it the *Broke* and then the *Finch*. It was part of Captain **George Downie's squadron** that was captured at the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 7-gun **sloop**. Launch: ?, Lake Champlain as the **merchantman** *Hunter*. Actual armament: (1813) one 18-pdr lg, two 12-pdr lg, four 6-pdr lg; (1814) one **columbiad**, four 6-pdr lg, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 60' bp × 19' × 5' 8" dh, 112 tons. Crew: 32.

GUERRIÈRE (RN). Captain **James Dacres** commanded this ship, which was slated for a major refit when it encountered the USS *Con-*

stitution, Captain **Isaac Hull**, on 19 August 1812 and was so badly damaged that Hull ordered it scuttled.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate frigate**. Launch: 1799, Cherbourg, France, captured by **RN** in 1806. Actual armament: (1812) 30 18-pdr lg, two 12-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde, one 12-pdr how. Dimensions: 155' 9" ld × 39' 9" × 12' 10" dr, 1,092 tons. Crew: 300.

GUERRIERE (USN). Ordered in January 1813, this **ship** was intended to improve on the already successful large **frigates** *Constitution*, *United States*, and *President* (1800). It was **blockaded** in its port until the end of the war.

Type: 44-gun frigate. Launch: June 1814, Philadelphia. Actual armament (1817): 33 24-pdr lg, 20 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 44' 6" × 13' 8" dh, 1,508 tons. Crew: 400.

GUN. *See* ARTILLERY.

GUNBOAT. These small armed vessels varied considerably in size, rig, and strength from a **bateau** fitted with a **carronade** or small-caliber **long gun** to a purpose-built craft with rowing benches and two or three guns on **slides** or **circles**. Converted **merchantmen** outfitted with one or more pieces of heavy ordnance that served in the **USN squadrons** on the Great Lakes were frequently referred to as gunboats.

GUN-BRIG. This was a **brig** commanded by an officer below the rank of **commander (RN)** or **master commandant (USN)**.

GUNNADE. Some of the craft in Captain **Joshua Barney's** **flotilla** out of **Baltimore** were reported to have carried gunnades. This type of **ordnance** was a hybrid of the **long gun** (lg) and the **carronade** (crde). It generally had the crde's lightness, length, and profile, but it was fitted with pinions so that it could be mounted on a carriage as a lg was. It appears to have been developed late in the 1790s. The term was sometimes applied to lightweight lgs cast for the **RN**.

GUNNER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

– H –

HALF PAY. While waiting for his next appointment, a British officer received about half his regular salary.

HALIFAX, NOVA SCOTIA. The British founded Halifax in 1749 to act as a military and naval base. In 1807, its population was 50,000. It was the capital of **Nova Scotia**, where, in 1812, Lieutenant General **Sir John Sherbrooke** was the **lieutenant governor** and commander of the military forces.

Vice Admiral **Herbert Sawyer** commanded the **North America Station** of the **RN** at Halifax when the war started. For years, problems had plagued the station. The rate of desertions was high, and, though the civil government cooperated in posting bounties for the return of deserters, the **RN** had been forced to man their ships by **impressment** in the **maritime provinces**. There were also shortages in naval stores and equipment and shipwrights to keep the warships properly fit for operation. The defense of Halifax was another major concern.

Admiral **Sir John Warren** succeeded Sawyer in the fall of 1812 and was himself replaced by Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** early in 1814. The **Admiralty** sent more vessels and resources to Halifax during their tenures. The **British army** sent **regiments** there and built five Martello Towers to protect the harbor. Still, the war brought such logistical problems as the development of facilities in ships and on **Melville Island** for **prisoners of war**. To make matters worse, a hurricane swept Halifax on 12 November 1813, wreaking havoc and casting nearly 70 vessels on shore, many of them warships.

Halifax was a key port for Canadian **privateers**. The hundreds of **prizes** brought into the port generated millions of dollars in local revenue.

HALL, AMOS (1761–1827). Hall was born in **Connecticut** and in 1788 went as a surveyor to western **New York**, where he bought land and settled. He held numerous civil posts and served for a time as state senator. He was a **brigadier general** in the **New York Militia** in 1800 and rose to **major general** in 1810.

When the war came, Hall did not get a command in the various

detachments formed by Governor Daniel Tompkins, but Tompkins sent him to the **Niagara Frontier** in July 1812 to help Brigadier General **William Wadsworth**, who had accepted command of a **brigade** but admitted his ignorance of things military. Hall was a **Republican** and kept his distance from Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer**, a **Federalist**, when he arrived to assume command in the middle of the summer. Like **Peter Porter**, Hall did not volunteer his services during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October), nor was he involved in Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November, 1 December).

Hall's next call to duty came in December 1813, when Tompkins ordered him, through Brigadier General **George McClure**, to call out the **militia** near the Niagara Frontier to march to defend the American villages on the **Niagara River** in the wake of the British **capture of Fort Niagara** (19 December) and the **raids at Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December). Hall was able to mobilize more than 1,000 men who hurried to **Black Rock** and **Buffalo**. There, under Hall's direct command, they put up a stiff defense against the British led by Major General **Phineas Riall** on 30 December. His militia could not keep up the fight, and Hall ordered their retreat to safety.

From January until April 1814, Hall kept the local militia activated and on guard on the upper Niagara River until **units of the U.S. Army** arrived.

Hall resumed his active involvement in local affairs after the war and died at his home in West Bloomfield, New York.

HALL, GEORGE B. After serving in the **PM** for more than a decade, Hall was promoted to **master and commander** in 1812 and senior officer of the **squadron on Lake Erie**. His vessels supported Major General **Isaac Brock's capture of Detroit** on 16 August 1812 and Brigadier General **Henry Procter's siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813). In June 1813, Commander **Robert Barclay** arrived at **Amherstburg** and superseded Hall, who remained on duty as a dockyard official.

HALL, THOMAS (USN). The U.S. Brig *Vixen* was **commissioned** to Lieutenant **George C. Read** but was under the command of Sailing Master **Thomas Hall** when it set sail early in December 1813 for

New Castle, Delaware, where it was to receive arms and supplies. On 25 December 1813, it was intercepted by and captured by HMS *Belvidera*, Captain **Richard Byron**.

HAMILTON (1809) (USN). The USN purchased the **schooner** and converted it for war service in 1812 as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron**. It sank off **Twelve Mile Creek** near modern-day St. Catharines, Ontario, along with the U.S. Schooner *Scourge* during a storm on 8 August 1813. The two vessels were found on the bottom of **Lake Ontario** in the 1970s and have been the subject of limited archaeological study.

Type: 9-gun schooner. Launch: 1809, **Oswego, New York**, as the **merchantman** *Diana*. Actual armament: (1813) one 12-pdr lg, eight 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 76 tons. Crew: 53.

HAMILTON (1809) AND SCOURGE, LOSS OF THE (8 August 1813). Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** encountered Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** for the first time on 7 August 1813 off the **Niagara River**. They failed to engage because of baffling winds and evasive tactics. Nightfall brought a lull with the American **squadron**, ready for action, located about six miles north of **Twelve Mile Creek** and within sight of the British. A violent storm arose shortly after midnight and upset the **schooners** *Hamilton* and *Scourge*, their sails all set and their decks overburdened with heavy **ordnance**, and they sank within minutes. Seaman **Ned Myers** described the incident, which cost the lives of more than 80 officers and men, in great detail in his autobiography. Both schooners were discovered in the 1970s in near perfect condition lying on the bottom of **Lake Ontario**. To date, only limited archaeological studies have been conducted on them.

HAMILTON (1813) (RN). See *GROWLER* (USN).

HAMILTON, PAUL (1762–1816). Hamilton was born in **South Carolina** and actively fought against the British in the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He was a landowner and farmer and entered state politics in the late 1780s and was governor of South Carolina between 1804 and 1806. Despite his lack of experience with

naval matters, Hamilton became President **James Madison**'s choice as secretary of the navy in 1809. At first, Hamilton made some important improvements to the department, and when the War of 1812 began, he approved a plan to form the few warships in the **USN** into three **squadrons** that could raid British shipping. Critics blamed Hamilton for the inefficiency of the department, and he resigned on 31 December 1812, to be replaced by **William Jones**. The rest of his life was spent trying to recover from financial reverses he had suffered while in office.

HAMILTON, THOMAS (1782–1837). Hamilton joined the **U.S. Army** as a **private** soldier in the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** prior to 1802, when he was advanced to **sergeant**. In March 1806, he gained a **commission** as **ensign** in the **regiment** and by 1812 was a **lieutenant** in command of a small detachment at **Fort Madison**. He successfully defended the **fort** when a native force under **Black Hawk** invested it (5–8 September). He remained at the fort until ordered to abandon and burn it in September 1813. The next year, he was promoted to **captain** and was present during Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814) and went with his **regiment** to **Sackets Harbor** late in the year but did not participate in any significant actions. Following the war, his military career was troubled, and he did not rise beyond **major** before resigning in 1828.

HAMPDEN, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

HAMPTON ROADS, VIRGINIA. This body of water was part of the bay at the mouth of the James River off **Hampton, Virginia**. It was a good “roads,” or anchorage, for large vessels.

HAMPTON, VIRGINIA. Hampton is located at the southern end of **Chesapeake Bay** at the mouth of the James River by **Hampton Roads**. In 1812, it was a small town one mile up from Hampton Roads on the shore of Hampton Creek.

HAMPTON, VIRGINIA, CAPTURE AND OCCUPATION OF (25–26 June 1813). Admiral Sir John Warren's **Chesapeake Bay**

campaign (March–September 1813) suffered a humiliating setback by the British failure during the **attack on Craney Island** (22 June). Warren quickly followed up the expedition with an attack on **Hampton**, thinking that the Americans might fortify that place strongly enough to inhibit naval movements in the area. This time, however, he put the attack in the hands of Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**, who used his reconnaissance reports to plan a two-pronged assault that worked.

The American force at Hampton totaled about 440 **Virginia Militia infantry, artillery, and dragoons** under Major Stapleton Crutchfield. It was camped at Little England, an estate on a point of land on Hampton Creek just south of the town, and had two small **batteries** housing seven guns in all.

Under Colonel **Sir Thomas Beckwith**, about 2,400 men landed early on 25 June three miles south of Hampton and marched toward the camp. This force consisted of two groups, the first comprising the **102nd Regiment of Foot, the Independent Companies of Foreigners**, and about 50 from the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and the second being the 1st and 2nd Battalions of **Royal Marines**. Under Cockburn ships, boats, and **rocket boats** manned by **RN** seamen, **Royal Marines** and **Royal Marine Artillery** moved to bombard the militia battery. The Virginia militia fought hard to resist the British but were forced back to their camp and finally into retreat; Beckwith's men held the camp by mid-morning and then pushed on into Hampton, which was virtually deserted.

Beckwith reported five killed, 33 wounded, and 10 missing, while Crutchfield noted seven killed, 12 wounded, 11 missing, and one captured. The British took the guns and ammunition, some wagons and horses, livestock, and other foodstuffs and reembarked on 26 June. In the time ashore, however, the Independent Foreigners confirmed their horrid reputation by running amok in the town, looting, vandalizing, raping, and killing; this was incorrectly said to be in revenge for the unsupported allegation that the Americans had killed British prisoners during the attack on Craney Island. The 102nd, **Royal Marines**, and **Royal Artillery** were held in check and used to finally get the wild Foreigners under control and on board the **squadron**, never to be used in battle again. Their depredations, which were falsely reported to have been supported by Cockburn, incensed Virginians and

Americans everywhere who vowed revenge and stout opposition to any further British hostilities.

Following the attack, several **frigates** went up the James River to raid stores and private vessels and then returned. The Americans lacked military and naval strength to evict Warren's squadron from the local waters, and the British made no further attempt on Hampton or Norfolk that summer.

HAMPTON, WADE (ca. 1752–1835). Born in **Virginia**, Hampton became a resident of **South Carolina**, where he farmed. During the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), he served with the patriots as a **dragoon** officer, earning laurels for his conduct. After the war, he held various civil posts and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives for two terms while becoming an extremely successful plantation owner.

Late in 1808, Hampton attained a **commission** as **colonel** of the **(First) U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons** but in February 1809 was advanced to **brigadier general**. He was sent to **New Orleans**, where he became involved in a bitter feud with Brigadier General **James Wilkinson**, whom he replaced. A harsh disciplinarian, Hampton was nicknamed "Old Hickory" after his favorite device for punishing miscreants, a hickory branch.

In March 1813, Hampton was promoted to **major general** and put in charge of the Right Division of the Ninth **Military District** at **Burlington, Vermont**. During the summer, this brought him under the command of Wilkinson, although Hampton made arrangements with Secretary of War **John Armstrong** to receive his orders from him instead of from his archenemy. This led to problems during **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), which was supposed to end with Hampton's and Wilkinson's armies uniting for an attack of 11,000 men on **Montreal**. Hampton set out for **LC** via the **Richelieu River** valley sooner than he was supposed to and without definite knowledge of Wilkinson's situation. He changed his plan and moved his army to Four Corners, **New York**, on the **Chateaugay River** and then advanced into **LC**, where he fought the **battle of the Chateaugay** (26 October 1813). His management of the engagement, splitting his force and then calling off the attack before fully probing the British strength

(which he outnumbered), revealed his lack of military skill. The defeat ended his campaign, and he headed back to **Plattsburgh** rather than trying again to unite with Wilkinson. He was widely criticized for his conduct, even to being branded a drunkard by junior officers.

Hampton resigned his commission in March 1814 and returned to private life, where he became known as the richest plantation owner in the country.

HANDCOCK, RICHARD BUTLER (?–1854). The record shows that Hancock entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the **13th Regiment of Foot** in August 1798 and advanced to **lieutenant** the next year. He was made a **captain** in 1805 and **major** in 1810, when the **regiment** was fighting the French in the West Indies. His regiment arrived in Canada in June 1813 and was stationed along the **Richelieu River**. Hancock commanded the outpost at **Lacolle, LC**, and successfully defended it against a much larger force under Major General **James Wilkinson** on 30 March 1814. Later in the year, he participated in **Sir George Prevost's Plattsburgh campaign** (August–September 1814).

Hancock was **brevetted to lieutenant colonel** in 1815. He left the army in 1819 and ended his days in Italy.

HANKS, JARVIS (1799–1858). In April 1813, at the age of 12, Jarvis Hanks left his family at Pawlet, **Vermont**, to enlist as a drummer with the **Eleventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. After training at **Burlington, Vermont**, the **regiment** marched to **Sackets Harbor**, where it participated in Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) and fought at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November). After spending part of the winter at **French Mills, New York**, the regiment marched for Sackets Harbor and then the **Niagara Frontier**, where it was trained by Brigadier General **Winfield Scott**. As part of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), Hanks saw action at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Hanks left the army in 1815 and had a number of jobs before set-

tling down to raise his family. During the 1830s and 1840s, Hanks wrote a memoir of his war experience that remained in manuscript form until partially published in 1960. The Canadian historian Donald E. Graves republished Hanks's account, complete with detailed notes, in 1995. Few **rank and file** memoirs exist, and for that reason Hanks provides a different and insightful slant on life during the war.

HANKS, PORTER (?–1812). A native of Massachusetts, Hanks received a commission as second **lieutenant** in the **U.S. Regiment of Artillery** in 1805 and the next year was promoted to first **lieutenant**. He held command of **Fort Mackinac** in the summer of 1812 with a force of 61 officers and men of his regiment when he received word that the local aboriginal nations were about to ally themselves with the British, who would then make an attack. The officer he sent to make a reconnaissance of the British at **St. Joseph Island** was captured by the 650-man force under Captain **Charles Roberts**, who arrived at Michilimackinac on 17 July. Outnumbered 10 to 1, Hanks surrendered, and he and his men were sent to **Detroit**, where they were **paroled**. Hanks was there on 16 August when the British under Major General **Isaac Brock** began a bombardment of the Americans and was killed by a British **round shot**.

HARDY, SIR THOMAS MASTERMAN (1769–1839). A native of England, Hardy first went to sea in the **RN** in 1781 but returned home to school for three years (while still carried on a ship's books). He then spent time in **merchantmen** but was back in the **RN** in 1790 as a **midshipman**. Promotion to **lieutenant** came in 1793, when he first met the future Vice Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson. He gained repeated notice because of his bravery and competence and became a **commander** in 1797 and **captain** in Nelson's **ship** in 1798. At the battle of Trafalgar (21 October 1805), Hardy commanded HMS *Victory*, in which Nelson was killed. Within months of the battle, he was made a **baronet**.

During the War of 1812, Hardy commanded a **squadron** of warships on **blockade** off the New England coast. He commanded the pointless **bombardment of Stonington, Connecticut** (9–12 September 1814) and participated in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

Following the war, Hardy continued his active service afloat and ashore. He was made a **KCB** in 1815 and a **GCB** in 1831 and rose to **vice admiral** in 1837.

HARRISON, FORT, INDIANA TERRITORY. This **stockaded** work with a two-story **blockhouse** in each of its four corners was erected in 1811 on the Wabash River just north of modern-day Terre Haute, Indiana, and named in honor of Brigadier General **William Harrison**, who was leading an expedition into the region at that time. It was attacked by a large group of natives beginning on 3 September 1812 and successfully defended. The **U.S. Army** withdrew from the fort around 1818, and it later became known as “the fort of two presidents,” Harrison and **Zachary Taylor**.

HARRISON, FORT, INVESTMENT OF (3–16 September 1812).

Captain **Zachary Taylor** commanded at **Fort Harrison** in the summer of 1812 with about 60 officers and men of the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, most of them ill. Beginning on 3 September, it was attacked by a large party of warriors of the **Kickapoo**, **Miami**, **Potawatomi**, **Shawnee**, and **Winnebago** nations from **Prophetstown**. Local citizens joined the **infantry** to defend the **fort** and succeeded in fighting off the natives even though they managed to burn a hole in one portion of the **palisade**. Sporadic attacks persisted over the next week, some of which were directed at the advance guard of the relief column sent from Vincennes, Indiana, by Brigadier General **William Harrison**. When Colonel William Russell reached the fort with about 1,350 men on 16 September, the natives withdrew, and Taylor won prominence for achieving the first American victory on land during the war.

HARRISON, WILLIAM HENRY (ca. 1773–1841). Born into a wealthy Virginian family, Harrison began a career in medicine but gave it up to obtain an **ensign’s commission** in the federal army in 1791. His postings were in the **Old Northwest**, where he participated in the campaign under Major General Anthony Wayne. Harrison left the army in 1798 and became deeply involved in politics, leading to his appointment as governor of **Indiana Territory** in 1800. He held the post until the war, working to open the area to settlers and to

make treaties with the native peoples, including the significant **Treaty of Fort Wayne** (1809). This led him into conflict with **Te-cumseh** and the **Prophet**. To oppose them and in response to native aggressions, he led the force that destroyed **Prophetstown** after the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811).

Harrison was a strong supporter of a war against the British, who he believed encouraged the natives to oppose American expansion. When the war started, Harrison held three commands: governor and commander of Indiana's **militia**, **major general** of **Kentucky Militia**, and Secretary of War **William Eustis** had given him command of offensive operations in Indiana and **Illinois Territory**. In August 1812, Harrison was made a **brigadier general** in the **U.S. Army**, and the next month President **James Madison** appointed him to command the **Army of the Northwest**. Harrison became a major general in March 1813.

Harrison's campaign in the Northwest (September 1812–October 1813) was fraught with difficulties and setbacks, but it culminated in his victory at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813), sometimes referred to as the **battle of the Thames**. This action won control of southwestern UC for the **United States** and eliminated the threat of a major native uprising against settlements in the Old Northwest. Despite this accomplishment, Harrison was subject to criticism by subordinate officers (most notably Brigadier General **James Winchester**) who complained of his overly cautious and meddling style.

After the victory at **Moraviantown**, Harrison expected to proceed to **Lake Huron** to recapture **Michilimackinac**, but bad weather and orders to transfer a portion of his **division** to the **Niagara Frontier** prevented this. On 31 October, he arrived with about 1,100 officers and men at **Fort George**, UC, where he found Brigadier General **George McClure** in command. McClure wanted to attack the British force at **Burlington Heights**, and Harrison was forming a plan with him when Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered his force to **Sackets Harbor**. Much to McClure's disappointment, Harrison's force embarked in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on 16 November and after a storm-ravaged voyage reached Sackets a week later.

Conflict grew between Harrison and Armstrong, and when Arm-

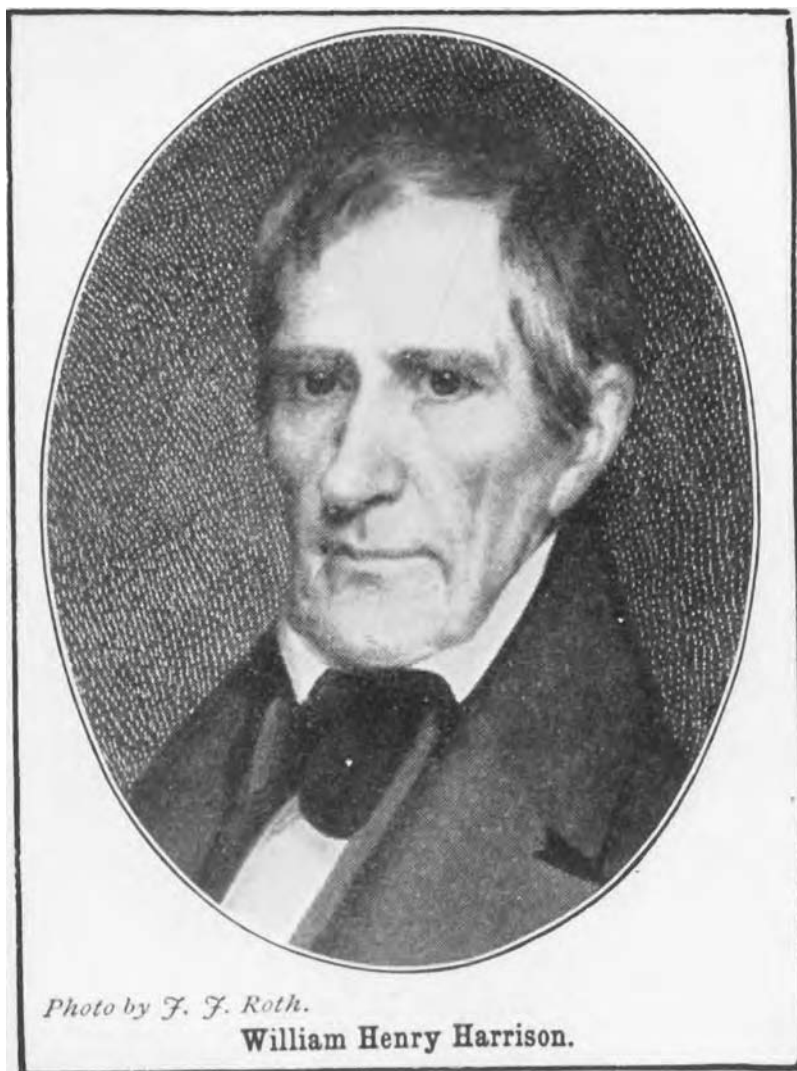
strong broke protocol by issuing direct orders to subordinate officers under Harrison, the general resigned his commission on 11 May 1814.

The rest of his life was devoted to politics and affairs in the Old Northwest, including peace negotiations with aboriginal nations, such as the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815). He became the ninth U.S. president in 1841 but died a month later.

HARRISON'S CAMPAIGN IN THE NORTHWEST (September 1812–October 1813). Officially, Brigadier General **William Harrison's** campaign began on 17 September, when President **James Madison** ordered him to take command of the **Army of the Northwest** gathering in **Ohio** and thereby supersede Brigadier General **James Winchester**, who had held the command following Brigadier General **William Hull's** defeat at **Detroit** (16 August). Harrison's mission was to reestablish the security of the American settlements and posts in the **Old Northwest** and retake Detroit.

Harrison was already moving with elements of several **regular units**, including the **Seventeenth** and **Nineteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, and thousands of **Kentucky** and **Ohio Militia** to protect such posts as **Forts Wayne** and **Harrison**, which were threatened by native attacks. He sent detachments to strike at native settlements, such as **Mississineway** and **Prophetstown**, while other parts of his army moved north to establish three supply bases in northern Ohio (St. Mary's, Kenton, and Mansfield). The army grew with the eventual arrival of other **regulars** (the **Nineteenth Infantry** and a **company** each of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**) and elements of the **Pennsylvania** and **Virginia Militia** until it numbered close to 10,000 men, and Harrison struggled to keep them fed, clothed, and armed in preparation for an attack against **Fort Amherstburg** and then Detroit.

Weather and travel conditions made matters worse, but by the second week of January 1813, an advance body under Winchester had set up a fortified camp on the lower **Maumee River**. Without authorization, Winchester fought and won the first **battle of Frenchtown**, Michigan (18 January), but lost most of his force in a second battle there on 22 January. Harrison postponed his plan to attack Fort Amherstburg in the winter and began to build **Fort Meigs** on the lower



*William Henry Harrison, ca. 1773–1841. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C95295*

Maumee. As **militia** terms of service ran out, his force dwindled to about 1,200. Assisted by bodies of reinforcements, including some **Shawnee** warriors, his army successfully opposed attacks by forces under Major General **Henry Procter**: the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August).

While Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** sailed from **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in the second week of August, Harrison began concentrating his force at the mouth of the **Sandusky River** in preparation for an invasion of **UC**. To the regulars and militia on hand, he was able to assemble some Ohio and Pennsylvania Militia and elements of the **Second, Ninth, Fourteenth, and Sixteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, plus the newly raised **Twenty-fourth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** (the latter three in the **brigade** of Brigadier General **Lewis Cass**) and the **First U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**. Colonel **Richard Johnson** joined with about 1,000 mounted Kentucky Riflemen, and Governor **Isaac Shelby** arrived at the head of five **regiments** of Kentucky Militia, totaling 3,500 officers and men. Harrison also had about 260 **Sandusky Senecas, Shawnees, and Wyandots** under **Black Hoof**.

Following the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), Harrison and Perry coordinated the invasion, moving men and supplies across the lake in stages, beginning on 22 September and effecting a landing about three miles south of **Amherstburg** on 27 September. The landing was unopposed, the British having retreated after burning their storehouses and destroying Forts Amherstburg and Detroit. Harrison effectively pursued and harassed Procter's force and caught it at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October). This victory brought an end to Harrison's campaign in the northwest, although the recapture of **Fort Mackinac** had yet to be achieved.

HARTFORD CONVENTION (15 December 1814–5 January 1815). An assembly was held at Hartford, **Connecticut**, to address grievances held by elements of New England states over the war and the federal government's handling of it. Twenty-six delegates attended: 12 from **Massachusetts**, seven from **Connecticut**, four from **Rhode Island**, two from **New Hampshire**, and one from **Vermont**.

Two of the most important issues were whether President **James Madison** had the constitutional right to order the states to activate their **militia** and the financial burden this placed on state treasuries. The secret sessions also dealt with a long list of **Federalist** concerns, including the need for a two-thirds majority on such critical legislation as war bills and embargoes. The final report dealt with the defense of New England and suggested seven amendments to the Constitution, but by the time representatives went to **Washington** with it, news of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had arrived, and no further significant steps were taken.

HARVEY, JOHN (1778–1852). Harvey was born in England, joined the **British army** in 1794 as an **ensign**, and saw plenty of active service in the Netherlands, France, the Cape of Good Hope, and India. While stationed in Ireland in 1812, Harvey was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** by **brevet** (in the 6th Royal Garrison Battalion) and sent to **UC** to serve as a **deputy adjutant general**. He reached **New Brunswick** and went overland to **Quebec** in the winter months of 1813.

Assigned to Brigadier General **John Vincent**'s command, Harvey was present during the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813) and led the successful attack against the Americans at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June). He also played important roles in the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November), the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May 1814), the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), and during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September); he was made a **major** in the **103rd Regiment of Foot** in June 1814. Harvey was often in the midst of the fighting but was wounded only once. He also demonstrated excellent competence as an administrator and won the praise of his superiors.

Harvey rose to the rank of **lieutenant general** in 1846; he was made a **KCH** in 1824. He held numerous military and civil posts in Britain and Canada, serving separate terms as **lieutenant governor** in each of the **maritime provinces**.

HASTINGS COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Hastings County was located north of the **Bay of Quinte** and was part of the Midland District of **UC**. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812.

HAVRE DE GRACE AND PRINCIPIO FOUNDRY, MARYLAND, RAID AT (3 May 1813). After the **raid at Frenchtown, Maryland** (29 April 1813), Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** went in HM Sloop *Fantome*, with his other small vessels, to Specucie Island off the mouth of the Susquehanna River to rest and refit briefly. En route, he had noticed that the **Maryland Militia** in the town of Havre de Grace had made a great show of raising a flag and firing guns. Curious as to what might be so important about the place, Cockburn decided to investigate.

Havre de Grace (“Harbor of Mercy”) was located on the west side of the Susquehanna about two miles from the head of the bay and on the main road between Philadelphia and **Baltimore**. It was a well-established community and consisted of up to 60 homes as well as businesses, taverns, stores, and so on. Since Cockburn’s vessels could not navigate the shallows offshore, he sent a flotilla, said to number 19 boats, under Commander John Lawrence of the *Fantome*, with seamen, 150 **Royal Marines**, and some **Royal Regiment of Artillery** to the village at midnight on 2 May. Cockburn went with the expedition.

The British attacked at dawn and were opposed by the Maryland Militia in two **batteries**, each containing three guns: 6-, 9- and 18-pdrs. The British returned the fire with the guns in their boats and **Congreve rockets** fired from a **rocket boat** (manned, presumably by the **Rocket Troop** or the **Rocket Corps**). As the American fire slackened, Lawrence put the **marines** ashore to outflank the Americans, who withdrew, prompting Lieutenant George Westphal, in one of the rocket boats, to storm the battery and capture it.

Although there had been more than 100 **militia** in the town during the previous days, only about 40 were present on 3 May. Most of these fled, but some remained to snipe at the British from the cover of the houses. Although their fire did little damage (Cockburn reported only a wound to Westphal’s hand), the **admiral** was incensed by their opposition and ordered nearly all the homes burned, some of which were looted. The marines chased the militia out of town, while some of the boats proceeded up the river to burn a warehouse and several vessels. There were reports of travelers stopped on the roads and robbed, livestock taken or butchered on the spot, and homes looted. Cockburn is said to have personally secured the home of **USN Commodore John Rodgers** and a stagecoach full of passengers that

unwittingly arrived. One American casualty was reported, a militiaman killed in the battery by a rocket.

After destroying 130 stands of arms, Cockburn had Lawrence confiscate the guns from the battery, and then they headed across the river to Principio (or Cecil) Foundry, which they learned about from a citizen at Havre de Grace. Unopposed here, they destroyed five 24-pdrs in a battery, dozens of other guns, and the elaborate works in which they had been manufactured. Late on 3 May, the force returned to Specucie Island.

This raid epitomized the nature of Cockburn's activities during the campaign. By ordering the private homes burned, Cockburn earned the hatred of the locals, which spread eventually to a nationwide disgust for his practices. His answer to such criticism was that any village that opposed his military operations could expect the same treatment as an unavoidable condition of warfare. His habit of paying for livestock and other goods and personal protection of some private property and individuals did not compensate for what the American public perceived as his otherwise barbarous conduct.

HAYES, JOHN (1767–1838). Hayes, born into a seafaring family, was first listed in an RN ship's books in 1774, at which date he was also apprenticed to a shipbuilder. He formally entered the RN as a **midshipman** in 1787. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1793, **commander** in 1799, and **captain** in 1802. In February 1814, while in command of HMS *Majestic*, he pursued the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813), Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley**, near Madeira for one day before spotting two French **frigates** with two **prizes** and making chase after them. He managed to engage and take the French *Terpsichore* without suffering a single casualty. Hayes was the senior officer of the **squadron** that pursued and captured the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, on 16 January 1815 off **New York City**. He continued in the service following the war with **commissions** afloat, was made a **CB** in 1815, and advanced to **rear admiral** in 1837.

HEALD, NATHAN (1775–1832). A resident of **Massachusetts**, Heald joined the **U.S. Army** in 1799 as a second **lieutenant** and by January 1807 had risen to the rank of **captain** in the **First U.S. Regi-**

ment of Infantry. He was the commander of the small force at **Fort Dearborn** in 1812, when he received orders from Brigadier General **William Hull** to withdraw from there to **Fort Wayne**. Though the fort was well stocked and he was advised by locals and his officers not to leave it because of the threatening behavior of the **Potawatomi** under **Blackbird** and **Mad Sturgeon**, Heald marched out on 15 August into a native ambush that became known as the “**Chicago Massacre**.” Both he and his wife were among the wounded prisoners who were eventually returned to American lines. He was promoted to **major** in the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** later that month and transferred into the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in April 1814. The following June, he left the army.

HENLEY, JOHN D. (?–1835). A native of **Virginia**, Henley entered the **USN** in 1799 as a **midshipman**. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807, and in January 1813 he commanded the U.S. Brig ***Viper*** when it was chased and captured in the waters between **Florida** and **New Orleans** by HMS ***Narcissus***, Captain **John Lumley**. A **court-martial** absolved Henley of blame for the loss of his command, and in June 1813 he was posted to the U.S. Schooner ***Carolina*** at Charleston, **South Carolina**, and promoted to **master commandant** the following month. In 1814 at New Orleans, Henley commanded the ***Carolina*** during the **battle at Villeré’s Plantation** (23 December). He advanced to **captain** in 1817.

HENRY PAPERS. In 1809, Sir James Craig, then governor in chief of **BNA**, sent John Henry, a **Montreal** businessman, into the New England states twice to investigate people’s opinions about the rumors of impending war with Britain. Henry reported to Craig in a series of letters and when he returned to Canada sought compensation. When Craig approved a payment of only £200, Henry went to England to obtain more money but failed. In 1811, he traveled to the **United States**, where he eventually succeeded in selling copies of his letters to President **Madison** for \$50,000. The president sent them to Congress on 9 March 1812, and they were immediately published in an effort to show that Britain’s nefarious intentions regarding the United States were deep seated. In time, the letters were dismissed as a tacky effort to gain support for the government’s war plans.

HERMES (RN). This vessel was a **sixth-rate** under the command of Captain **William Percy** when it was burned by its crew to avoid capture after the unsuccessful **attack on Fort Bowyer, Mississippi Territory** (15 September 1814).

Type: 20-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1810, Portsmouth, UK. Standard armament: two 9-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 119' gd × 30' 11" × 8' 7" dh, 508 tons. Crew: 135.

HIGHFLYER (RN). This **schooner** was commissioned at **Baltimore** as a **privateer** in July 1812. During its voyages it took at least 11 **prizes** worth about \$187,000. It was captured off **Chesapeake Bay** by HM ships *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, and *Acasta*, Captain Alexander Kerr, on 9 January 1813. At that time, it mounted five guns and had a crew of 72 and was described as a remarkably fast craft. *Highflyer* was bought into the **RN** for use as an armed **tender** and saw wide use during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813). It was commanded by Lieutenant **George Hutchinson** when it was captured by the USS *President*, Commodore **John Rodgers** (23 September 1813). Rodgers advised buying the schooner into the **USN** for use as a light cruiser, but this does not appear to have been done.

Type: 8-gun schooner. Actual armament: five guns. Dimensions: 80' ud x' 29' × ?, 132 tons. Crew: 39.

HILLYAR, JAMES (1769–1843). This officer entered the **RN** as a surgeon's servant in 1779. He was made a **midshipman** in 1781, passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1788, but did not gain a **commission** in that rank until 1794. He became a **commander** in 1800 and a **post captain** in 1804.

While commanding HMS *Phoebe*, Hillyar was sent by the **Admiralty** in March 1813 to destroy American trading posts in the Pacific Northwest with HM Sloop *Cherub*, Commander **Thomas Tucker**, and HM Sloop *Racoon*, Commander W. Black, under his command. The **North West Company** supply ship *Isaac Todd* accompanied the **squadron** but became lost, and when Hillyar heard that the USS *Essex*, Captain **David Porter**, had captured the *Todd*, he sent *Racoon* on to the Columbia River while he searched for the *Essex*. The *Phoebe* and *Cherub* found the American **frigate** at Valparaiso, Chile,

on 3 February 1814 and **blockaded** it until 28 March, when they captured the *Essex* as Porter tried to escape.

Hillyar was knighted three times, the final honor being the **KCB** in 1840. He rose to the rank of **rear admiral** just before his death.

HOLCROFT, WILLIAM (1778–1858). This officer joined the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** of the **British army** as a second **lieutenant** in 1796. He rose to **captain** in 1808, having seen action against the French in Europe.

Posted to Canada, Holcroft came to the notice of Major General **Isaac Brock**, who relied on his talents in preparing **batteries** with **regular** and **militia** personnel along the **Niagara River** in the spring and summer of 1812. Holcroft played a critical role in the victory at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October), for which he was **brevetted a major**.

In 1813, Holcroft fought at the **battle of Fort George** (29 May) and was present during the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June) and the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October).

Holcroft remained on the **Niagara Peninsula**, and when Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** took command of **UC** late in 1813, he praised Holcroft's competence and later recommended that Holcroft's battery be allowed to wear the **battle honor** "Niagara" on its caps. It does not appear, however, that he saw any further action in the war.

Without further promotion and left on **half pay**, Holcroft left the army in 1835.

HOLMES, ANDREW HUNTER (ca. 1792–1814). Holmes was a native of **Mississippi Territory** and younger brother of David Holmes, the governor of the territory. He joined the **U.S. Army** in March 1812 as a **captain** in the **Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. He was sent in November 1812 to arrest **Jean Lafitte** and his brother Pierre for smuggling infractions. The next spring, he and part of his **regiment** joined Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813).

In February–March 1814, Holmes led a detachment of mounted **regulars**, **militia**, and **rangers** on a raid into southwestern **UC** that resulted in the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March). In this en-

gement, Holmes demonstrated considerable leadership skill when his dispirited and ill force fought off a strong, frontal attack by British **regulars**; for this he was **brevetted to major**. In April, he was promoted to major of the **Thirty-second U.S. Regiment of Infantry** but remained at **Detroit** rather than joining the **regiment**.

Secretary of War **John Armstrong** sent orders directly to Holmes in the spring of 1814 regarding a potential expedition to the upper lakes. This disruption in protocol greatly offended his immediate superior, Lieutenant Colonel **George Croghan**, and Harrison. When Croghan eventually commanded the military detachment in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814), Holmes was his second in command. He was killed in the **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August) by two bullet wounds to the chest; the **Menominee** warriors Yellow Dog and l'Espagnol are said to have fired the shots.

The next day, the Americans recovered his body, which Surgeon **Usher Parsons** claimed was unmolested by the native warriors. Holmes's body was returned to Detroit for burial; one account has it that the casket was towed to Detroit behind a **schooner** while kept mainly submerged by having three round **shot** placed in it to cover the effluvium of putrefaction.

HOOPLE'S CREEK, SKIRMISH AT (10 November 1813). Late on 9 November, the flotilla carrying the **division** of troops in Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) stopped on the Canadian shore near the farm of John Crysler, about 25 miles downstream from **Prescott, UC**. Part of his force had landed on the Canadian shore to cover his advance two days before, and now Wilkinson intended to land most of his men so that the boats could run down the dangerous Long Sault rapids. On 10 November, he sent Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** ahead with a large detachment to clear the road down to **Cornwall** and to capture the depot of British stores known to be there; because of logistical problems, most of Wilkinson's own provisions had been consumed or ruined, and the British supplies were much needed.

Brown's force consisted of his **brigade** (**Sixth, Fifteenth, and Twenty-second U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Colonel **Alexander Macomb's** reserve brigade (**Twentieth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**,

Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery, First U.S. Regiment of Rifles, and Albany Volunteers), and the **First U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, his strength totaling about 2,600 officers and men. By early afternoon on a wet and miserable 10 November, Brown's advance, the First Rifles under Lieutenant Colonel **Benjamin Forsyth**, reached Hoople's Creek, two miles above the Long Sault rapids. Stopping to repair the damaged bridge, they were fired on by a concealed party of British consisting of about 300 of the **Stormont and Glengarry County Militias** under Major **James Dennis** of the 1/49th Foot.

Dennis had taken up a position in the trees on the east side of the wide creek and placed his men in such a manner as to make Brown believe he faced up to 800 effectives. Brown brought up two 6-pdr **field guns** and sent Colonel **Winfield Scott** with the Third Artillery, acting as **infantry**, upstream to find a ford and outflank the British. Dennis held his place for about an hour and then slowly withdrew. In the meantime, he sent orders to Cornwall for the removal of most of the stores.

Brown reached Cornwall on 11 November, finding it mainly deserted. He made camp to await the arrival of the flotilla. Dennis, meanwhile, was heading for Coteau-du-Lac, the next British post downriver, with his 150-wagon train of supplies. Both sides reported only a few casualties after the skirmish.

HOPE, DAVID (1787–1847). A Scot by birth, Hope entered the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in May 1796 and advanced to **midshipman** in 1798 and **lieutenant** in 1806. He was first lieutenant in HMS *Macedonian*, Captain **James Carden**, when it engaged the USS *United States*, Captain **Stephen Decatur**, 500 miles south of the Azores on 25 October 1812. Hope was severely wounded but kept the deck and was later praised in the **court-martial** convened to investigate the loss of the *Macedonian*.

Hope was soon given a **commission** in HM Schooner *Shelburne* (while Carden never served afloat again), in which vessel he joined with HMS *Orpheus*, Captain **Hugh Pigot**, on 20 April 1814 to chase and capture the U.S. Sloop *Frolic*, Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge**, south of **Florida**. In June, he was promoted to **commander** but remained in the *Shelburne* and participated in the campaign against **New Orleans** in the **schooner** and then as an aide-de-

camp to Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** in HMS *Tonnant*. Following the war, he had two brief **commissions**, was promoted to **captain** in 1830, and then spent the rest of his career on **half pay**.

HOPE, FORT. This small American work was built on the Canadian side of the **Detroit River** about three miles west of **Sandwich** during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812) and was destroyed by the Americans when they withdrew to **Detroit** during the second week of August 1812.

HOPE, HENRY (1787–1863). Hope entered the **RN** as a **volunteer** in 1798 and became a **midshipman** in 1800. He saw extensive action against the French, advancing to **lieutenant** in 1804, **commander** in 1806, and **captain** in 1808. He took command of HMS *Endymion* in May 1813 and was in the **squadron** of Captain **John Hayes**, HMS *Majestic*, on 15 January 1815, when it pursued and captured the USS *President*, Captain **Stephen Decatur**, off **New York City**. The *Endymion* played a key role in the victory, for which Hope received a gold medal from the **Admiralty** and was made a **CB**. He went on **half pay** late in 1815 and never served afloat again, although he was made a **KCB** in 1855 and rose to **admiral** in 1858.

HOPKINS, SAMUEL (1753–1819). Born in **Virginia**, Hopkins served with George Washington during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He became a lawyer in the 1780s and settled in **Kentucky**, where he served in the state legislature and eventually the U.S. House of Representatives. A **militiaman** of long standing, he was appointed a **major general** and joined the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Harrison** in September 1812. He led one unsuccessful expedition of 2,000 mounted **Kentucky Militia** against native settlements along the Illinois River, harassed continuously by **Kickapoo** warriors, and a second more successful brief campaign along the Wabash River in November. With a force of 1,200 men, he destroyed two villages, including **Prophetstown** (19 November), but lost part of a detachment in an ambush. He left the military service after this and in 1813 was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives again, serving for one term before retiring.

HORNET (USN). Under Captain **James Lawrence**, the *Hornet* destroyed HM Sloop ***Peacock***, Commander **William Peake**, off the Demerara River, Guyana, South America, on 24 February 1813. Master Commandant **James Biddle** commanded the sloop when it captured HM Sloop ***Penguin***, Commander **James Dickinson**, off Tristan de Cunha on 23 March 1815. The sloop sank with all hands off Tampico, Mexico, on 29 September 1829.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1805, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: (1813) one 18-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde; (1815), two 9-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 106' 9" bp × 39' × 14' dr, 441 tons. Crew: 140.

HORNET VS. PEACOCK (1806), NAVAL BATTLE OF (24 February 1813). The U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Master Commandant **James Lawrence**, sailed from Boston in September 1812 with the USS ***Constitution***, Captain **William Bainbridge**, for a cruise that eventually brought them to Brazil, where they parted company in December; the *Constitution* soon encountered HMS ***Java* (1805)**, Captain **Henry Lambert**.

Lawrence remained off Brazil until 24 February 1813 until, while cruising off the Demerara River, Guyana, he spotted a British warship, HM Sloop ***Espiegle***, Commander **John Taylor**, at anchor in the river and a second warship sailing to intercept him. This was HM Sloop ***Peacock***, Commander **William Peake**, which engaged the *Hornet* at 5:25 P.M. In the first broadside, however, all the British 24-pdr **carronades** (crde) fired high, while the *Hornet*'s 32-pdr crdes inflicted massive damage to the *Peacock*'s hull and personnel, killing Peake. Within half an hour, the British were ready to surrender, their **brig-sloop** sinking under them, its main mast having collapsed overboard.

American casualties were one dead and four injured, while the British lost seven killed and 30 wounded, and a further nine Britons and three Americans drowned when the *Peacock* sank during the rescue operation. Lawrence conveyed the prisoners to **New York City**, where they publicly thanked him for the good treatment they had received. The loss of the *Peacock*, due to what was considered grossly inferior gunnery, led to an **Admiralty** order to Admiral **Sir John Warren** at **Halifax** to improve the quality of gunnery drill in vessels

under his command. Commander Taylor of the *Espiegle* was **court-martialed** in 1814 for not having sailed to support the *Peacock* and dismissed from the **RN**, although he was reinstated in 1817. Lawrence was promoted to **captain**, dated to 4 March 1813, and given the USS *Chesapeake*.

HORNET VS. PENGUIN, NAVAL BATTLE OF (23 March 1815).

Master Commandant **James Biddle** took command of the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* in March 1813 but was **blockaded** at New London, **Connecticut**, by the British until escaping late in 1814 and reaching **New York City**, where he was again blockaded. On 20 January 1815, less than a week after the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, was captured while trying to evade the British, the *Hornet* escaped in company with the U.S. Sloop *Peacock*, Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington**, the officers intending to rendezvous in the South Atlantic.

Biddle reached the rendezvous, and on 23 March 1815, near Tristan de Cunha, he came into contact with HM Sloop *Penguin*, Commander **James Dickinson**. The warships assumed parallel courses with the *Penguin* having the **wind gauge**. The sea was running high, and as the vessels came into close range around 1:40 P.M., they opened fire. The first American **broadsides** were very effective, damaging the *Penguin*'s rigging and inflicting injuries on the crew, while the British gunnery caused only minor damage to the *Hornet*'s rig. Dickinson attempted to board his opponent but ended up tearing up the latter's rigging aft and losing his own bowsprit and foremast. Dickinson was then killed, and, while his first **lieutenant**, James McDonald, attempted to close on the *Hornet* again and board, the American firepower was too great, and he lowered the British flag only 22 minutes after the first exchange.

The British casualties were 14 dead and 28 wounded (roughly 33 percent of the crew), while the American lost one man and had 10 wounded. The British survivors made the complaint that their **caronades** had become dismounted because they had not been bolted down properly, as other crews of the small **brig-sloops** had noted, but other observers believed that inferior British gunnery contributed to the loss. Biddle, who received a severe neck wound in the affair, scuttled the ruined *Penguin*.

On 24 March, he met the *Peacock*, but when HMS *Cornwallis*, Captain John Bayley, made chase of them on 27 March, they separated, and the British proceeded after the *Hornet* for the better part of two days. Bayley's crew gained on the American **sloop** and fired at it but hit it only three times. The *Hornet*'s crew was certain of their capture, but Biddle's superior seamanship saved the vessel, and it returned safely to the **United States**.

HORSE ARTILLERY. *See* ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

HORSE GUARDS. This was a range of buildings at Horse Guards Parade in London, England, which was the headquarters of the **British army**.

HOT SHOT. Round **shot** fired by **artillery** could be heated in specially equipped ovens and then fired at a fort or vessel where the hot shot would cause wood to burst into flame within minutes.

HOWARD, BENJAMIN (1760–1814). Born in **Virginia**, Howard was educated for a career in law and was a congressman and the governor of **Louisiana Territory** (1810–1812). In March 1813, he was **commissioned** as a **brigadier general** in the **U.S. Army**, and in 1814 he commanded the Eighth **Military District**.

In the spring of 1813, Howard took steps to put an end to raids by **Potawatomis** and **Kickapoos** by sending a force up the Illinois River to build Fort Clark, where modern-day Peoria, **Illinois**, stands. The presence of the fort successfully reduced the number of raids.

In the summer of 1814, Howard sanctioned the actions taken by Governor **William Clark** to gain control of fur trade interests on the upper Mississippi River at **Prairie du Chien**.

HOWITZER. This was a short-barreled piece of **artillery** with a wide bore, used to fire **shells** and other projectiles on a higher trajectory than a **long gun** could. Its caliber was determined by the diameter of its bore.

HULL, ISAAC (1773–1843). Born in Derby, **Connecticut**, Hull went to sea with his mariner-father at an early age; his uncle was **William**

Hull. After gaining wide experience at sea, Hull entered the USN as a **lieutenant** in 1798. He participated in the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and in the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was promoted to **master commandant** in 1804 and **captain** in 1806.

He took command of the USS *Constitution* in 1810 and, on the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), set out from Boston to join Commodore **John Rodgers's** **squadron** at **New York City** but was chased by a British squadron under Captain **Philip Broke** for three days before managing to escape on 19 July. Having restocked his **ship** at Boston, he sailed again and on 19 August encountered HMS *Guerrière*, Captain **James Dacres**. The Americans captured and then destroyed the *Guerrière*, which won Hull fame as being the first USN officer to defeat a British **frigate** in a ship-to-ship action. It was his last fight against the British, but it earned him extensive praise; Congress voted him a gold medal in honor of his victory. Hull continued to serve in the USN after the war, mostly at shore posts.

HULL, WILLIAM (1753–1825). Hull was a native of Derby, **Connecticut** (**Isaac Hull** was his nephew), and was a lawyer by profession. As a **militia** officer, he was actively involved in numerous battles during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), earning the commendation of George Washington. He held public offices as a **Republican** from the late 1790s and was appointed governor of **Michigan Territory** by President **Thomas Jefferson** in 1805.

In April 1812, President **James Madison** gave him a **commission** as **brigadier general** in the **U.S. Army** and ordered him to form an army to defend the **Detroit** region. When he reached Detroit, Hull was ordered to invade Canada, but his campaign ended in disaster with the **capture of Detroit** by Major General **Isaac Brock** on 16 August 1812.

Hull defended his failure by showing that he had urged Madison and his cabinet to get control of **Lake Erie** before commencing a land war, which they did not. This made it possible for the British to cut his supply line, which, along with dissent among his senior officers and his own incompetence, contributed to his loss. A **court-martial** for him was ordered and then canceled, but an inquiry was convened in 1814, and Hull was found guilty of cowardice and ne-

glect of duty and sentenced to execution. Madison commuted the sentence, pointing to Hull's brave service in the War of Independence. Hull was dismissed from the army and spent the rest of his days farming in Newton, **Massachusetts**.

HULL'S CAMPAIGN ON THE DETROIT RIVER (May–August 1812). President **James Madison** appointed **William Hull** to be a **brigadier general** in the **U.S. Army** at **Washington** on 8 April 1812 and gave him command of the **Army of the Northwest**. Hull gathered three **regiments** of volunteer **Ohio Militia** (about 1,200 men) at Dayton, **Ohio**, and left there on 1 June to march to Urbana, Ohio, where the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** joined him, bringing his strength to about 1,600. The army marched north to the **Maumee River** and then on to **Detroit**, reaching it on 5 July. **Fort Detroit** was garrisoned by the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, which, along with detachments from the **Michigan Militia**, raised his strength to 2,000. The British had discovered Hull's personal and administrative papers when they seized his supply vessel, the *Cuyahoga Packet*, on 2 July and learned about the size and strength of his army.

Hull had received orders from Secretary of War **William Eustis** to cross the **Detroit River** and capture British settlements and **Fort Amherstburg**. Part of Hull's army made a successful landing at **Sandwich, UC**, virtually without opposition on 12 July, and the general published a notice offering protection to all Canadians who were loyal to the **United States**. A number of minor skirmishes took place over the next three and a half weeks, but Hull failed to press a full-scale attack on the smaller British force at Fort Amherstburg. He was slow in getting heavy ordnance in place for the attack; his supply line was cut by the actions at **Brownstown** (5 August) and **Maguaga** (9 August), and news arrived that the British had seized **Fort Mackinac** and that Major General **Isaac Brock** would soon reach **Amherstburg** with a large reinforcement. Hull was also disappointed that he could not form an alliance with the **Wyandot** nation and finally decided to withdraw to Detroit on 7 August, the last of his force leaving Sandwich five days later.

On 15 August, after offering Hull the chance to surrender, Brock opened fire on Detroit and the next day marched into place to attack

it. Without attempting a defense, Hull surrendered, and his entire army was taken prisoner.

HUMPHREYS (DAVENPORT), SALUSBURY PRYCE (1778–1845). Humphreys entered the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1790 and received his **commissions** as **lieutenant** and **commander** in 1798 and 1802, respectively. He became a **post captain** in 1804 and commanded HMS *Leopard* during the incident that became known as the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). Humphreys was recalled to England, and, though not **court-martialed** for his actions, he was never given another command afloat. Humphreys remained on **half pay** through the rest of his career, rising to **rear admiral** in 1840. He assumed the surname of Davenport in 1838, when he inherited his father-in-law William Davenport's estate in Bramall, Cheshire, England.

HURON (RN). *See* **SOMERS (USN).**

HURON, LAKE. The second largest of the Great Lakes and 577 feet above sea level, Lake Huron receives water from **Lake Superior** via the **St. Mary River** and from **Lake Michigan** and **Georgian Bay**. It drains into **Lake Erie** via the **St. Clair River**, **Lake St. Clair**, and the **Detroit River**.

HUTCHINSON, GEORGE (?–1859). The record shows that this officer joined the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1796 and was continually employed at sea with much experience fighting the French and its allies. He passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1802 but did not gain a **commission** in that rank until 1806. He had command of HM Schooner *Highflyer* when it was captured by the USS *President*, Commodore **John Rodgers** (23 September 1813). A record of his employment thereafter is lacking, although he was promoted to **commander** in 1821, put on **half pay**, and, after retiring in 1840, made a **post captain** in 1856.

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ILLINOIS TERRITORY. Officially part of the **Northwest Territory** from 1787, Illinois became a separate territory (including what is

now **Wisconsin**) in 1809 with its capital at Kaskaskia. In 1810, its population was about 12,000. During the war years, its governor was Ninian Edwards (1809–1818). Illinois became a state in 1818. Illinois did not submit a return of **militia** before 1812.

“I’LL TRY, SIR!” These words were spoken by Colonel **James Miller** of the **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry** during the **battle of Lundy’s Lane** (25 July 1814). They came in reply to Major General **Jacob Brown**, who had just ordered Miller to take his **regiment** and capture the **artillery** in the center of the British force holding the ridge at Lundy’s Lane. Known for his competence as an officer and for the efficiency of his **unit**, Miller led his men up the hill in the dark, surprised the British gunners, and seized the guns. Joined by other American regiments, Miller’s men held their position despite ferocious fighting at close quarters. The words became the motto of the current Third U.S. Infantry, which derived from Miller’s Twenty-first.

IMPRESSMENT. The **RN** practiced this form of forced recruitment by stopping merchant vessels under any flag and removing seamen suspected, rightly or wrongly, of being British citizens or deserters from the **RN**; they also pressed men on shore. Although all neutrals lost men because of impressment, it had been a particularly contentious issue between the **United States** and Britain since the 1790s with both nations defending their rights. Britain complained that the Americans enticed British seamen to desert and then refused to return them to their rightful ships. American protest increased as upwards of 6,000 American sailors were impressed in the decade preceding 1812. The **Chesapeake–Leopard Affair** (22 June 1807) caused American outrage to peak. Thereafter, the British government placed strict limits on impressment, although it never gave up its right to supplement the **RN** crews through impressment. Impressment was a key issue causing the War of 1812 and was reflected in the popular slogan **Free Trade and Sailors’ Rights**. When the **Napoleonic Wars** (1803–1815) ended, the **RN** was downsized, and impressment no longer infringed on Anglo-American relations.

INCORPORATED MILITIA, UC. *See* BATTALION OF INCORPORATED MILITIA, UC.

INDEPENDENT COMPANIES OF FOREIGNERS. This British **unit** gained a deserved reputation for some of the most undisciplined and uncivil conduct of any unit during the war. Studies of the war have frequently misidentified the Foreigners as Canadian Chasseurs (the name of a reputable French Canadian corps), the **Chasseurs Britanniques**, and the **French Chasseurs**.

The original two **companies** of the Foreigners numbered about 160 officers and men each. The first was formed in England late in 1812 through the recruitment of French deserters and prisoners of war who preferred military service to imprisonment; it had few, if any, English officers. The company was sent to **Bermuda** early in 1813, and when the second company was formed along similar lines, it went to Bermuda in March 1813 with Colonel Sir Sydney Beckwith and the 1st and 2nd Battalions of **Royal Marines** intended for service in Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September). Within a short time, the Foreigners had earned a reputation for misconduct and resistance to authority in Bermuda and on board ship, and this they magnified during two brief actions against the Americans. During the **assault on Craney Island, Virginia** (22 June), dozens of them deserted. During the **capture and occupation of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June), the Foreigners looted, vandalized, raped, and murdered before they could finally be brought under control by other British units. They caused trouble in HMS *Success* after reembarkation and again in **Halifax**, where the *Success* deposited them. Late in 1813, the remaining 200 or so were sent back to England. Three more companies had been raised, but to rid itself of their criminal behavior, the **British army** repatriated them to France in the spring of 1814 after **Napoleon** abdicated.

INDIANA TERRITORY. Officially part of the **Northwest Territory** from 1787, Indiana became a separate territory in 1800 with its capital at Vincennes. In 1810, its population was about 25,000. During the war years, its governors were **William Harrison (Republican, 1800–1812)**, John Gibson (Republican, 1812–1813), and Thomas Posey (Republican, 1813–1816). Indiana became a state in 1816. According to the return taken in 1810, there were 4,200 officers and men in the **standing militia**.

INFERNAL MACHINES. *See* TORPEDOES.

INSPECTING FIELD OFFICER. This officer's responsibilities included monitoring the accounts of paymasters and recruiting officers, making sure musters were precise and complete and that the various relevant orders were followed.

INVESTMENT. The first stage in a **siege** was to invest the enemy's position. This involved encircling it to prohibit any outside communication in preparation for laying the siege and making a full-scale attack.

IRREGULAR FORCES. This term referred to any force that was not part of an army of **regulars**, such as a **unit** of **militia**.

IRUMBERRY DE SALABERRY, CHARLES MICHEL D'. *See* SALABERRY, CHARLES MICHEL D' IRUMBERRY DE.

ISLE-AUX-NOIX. This British post was located eight miles north of **Lake Champlain** on an island in the **Richelieu River**. Its **fortifications** were developed during the war, and a shipyard was built within its confines.

IZARD, GEORGE (1776–1828). Born to American parents living in London, Izard was raised in the **United States** and well educated there and abroad. From 1794 to 1803, he held a **commission** as an engineer in the **U.S. Army**. After resigning from the service, he began family life as a well-connected intellectual in Philadelphia.

In March 1812, Izard accepted a commission as **colonel** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and took post at **New York City**. The following March, he was promoted to **brigadier general** and sent to the Right Division of the army in the Ninth **Military District** at **Plattsburgh, New York**. Here he came under the command of Major General **Wade Hampton** and took part in his ill-fated march to join with Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813). Izard commanded the Second Brigade of Hampton's **division** and led them at the **battle on the Chateaugay** (26 October 1813). After being re-

pulsed in the first brief stage of the battle, Izard's force was pushing in the British defenders when Hampton signaled an end to the affair since his First Brigade had been thrown into confusion across the **Chateaugay River**.

In 1814, Izard was promoted to **major general** and took over Hampton's former Right Division at Plattsburgh, New York. Having suffered badly during the winter and spring, the army needed to be reconstituted, and Izard worked effectively to achieve this. In the spring and summer, a portion of his force was detached to guard the New York/LC border, resulting in a series of minor actions, such as the **skirmish at Odelltown, LC** (28 June). Expecting to be ordered to invade LC or defend against a British attack from that quarter, Izard was surprised when, on 10 August, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered him to march a portion of his force to **Sackets Harbor** to work in conjunction with Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814). Although he resisted the order at first, Izard left Plattsburgh on 29 August with about 4,300 men and reached Sackets on 17 September, where he and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** discussed an attack against **Kings-ton** or a landing near **Burlington Heights**. These ideas failed, and **Chauncey's squadron** landed Izard's force at the **Genesee River** on 23 September, where it began a march to the **Niagara Frontier**. Brown and Izard discussed a **siege of Fort Niagara**, but this was rejected, and the Right Division crossed into Canada from **Black Rock** on 10 October.

Now in command by seniority on the Niagara, Izard moved his army down to challenge the **British army** under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** at **Chippawa Creek**. He joined parts of Brown's Left Division to his own Right Division, which consisted of Brigadier General **Daniel Bissell's First Brigade (Fifth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, and Sixteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry)**, Brigadier General Thomas A. Smith's Second Brigade (**Fourth, Tenth, Twelfth, and Seventeenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), some **Corps of Artillery**, and part of the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**. The Americans made a demonstration at the Chippawa, but the British would not do battle. As a result, no definitive action took place; Izard did send Brigadier General Daniel Bissell to attack the British position at **Cook's Mills** (28 October). Izard withdrew his forces

from **Fort Erie**. Embarrassed by his failure to conquer the British, he offered his resignation to Secretary of War **James Monroe**. It was refused, and Izard was given an honorable discharge the following June.

After the war, he resumed his quiet life in Philadelphia until in 1825 then-President Monroe made him the governor of Arkansas, where Izard ended his days and was buried at Little Rock.

– J –

JACKSON, ANDREW (1767–1845). Of Irish heritage, Jackson was born in **South Carolina** and, though tall and apparently frail, was adventurous and brave from his youth as shown by the fact that he was an active patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). By 1787, he was a traveling lawyer and eventually settled in Nashville, **Tennessee**, becoming that state's first congressman 10 years later. That same year, he resigned the post and returned to sit on the state's supreme court. Jackson had married into a prominent family and rose in importance in the state. He showed great devotion to friends and deep hatred toward his enemies, several of whom he met in duels, suffering a series of wounds. In 1802, Jackson was elected the commanding **general** of the **Tennessee Militia** and became known as an excellent officer with an iron will.

Jackson was a sharp critic of Brigadier General **James Wilkinson** commanding at **New Orleans** and his conduct before the war; this, along with his criticism of President **Thomas Jefferson**, made Jackson unpopular among the **Washington** leaders. He failed to get a **commission** in the **U.S. Army**, and his offer to march a large force of Tennessee Militia to Canada was turned down. Jackson showed his competence and leadership qualities when the **Creek War** (1813–1814) broke out and the effective manner in which he subdued the Creek threat won him fame and furthered the respect he had in the southern states. President **James Madison**'s cabinet had little choice but to fill a vacancy in the **U.S. Army** by making Jackson a **brigadier general** on 19 April 1814 and then a **major general** on 1 May and putting him in command of the Seventh **Military District** at the end of that month.

After he completed a treaty with the **Creek** nation, Jackson turned his attention to reports about the intended British attack on the Gulf coast. With advice from Secretary of War **James Monroe** and news from the British force gathering at Jamaica, Jackson prepared to make a stand at **Mobile** since it was named as the intended invasion point. After the **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September), Jackson sought to frustrate the British preliminary plans and succeeded with his **capture of Pensacola** (7 November). He then left a largely **militia** force in that area under Brigadier General **James Winchester** and went to New Orleans, where he arrived on 1 December, suffering as he had for months from chronic dysentery.

Jackson was dismayed at the poor defensive state of the city, not just in its men and arms but also in the negative or indifferent attitude of the populace. He now demonstrated his brilliant leadership abilities by appraising the situation and, within two days, ordering the erection of defenses and the mobilization and training of **units**. From 4 to 10 December, he examined defenses on the Mississippi below the city, ordering their improvement as he continued to send fresh orders to New Orleans. Jackson also ordered all nearby bayous and canals blocked to navigation. At one point, he considered an **impressment** system to man the **USN** vessels, but the acceptance of **Jean Lafitte** and the **Baratarians'** help made this unnecessary. His efforts brought other volunteers flocking to the city, but, when news of the American defeat at the **battle of Lake Borgne** (14 December) arrived and threatened the dependability of the locals, Jackson declared martial law on 16 December to keep things tightly under control.

Jackson's defensive plans were developing well when he learned of the arrival of the British advance at the Villeré plantation nine miles below the city early on 23 December. Once he was certain this was not a diversion, he launched the **attack at Villeré's plantation** (23 December). Although it became disorganized and Jackson did not overwhelm the British, this attack did inflict sharp casualties on them, while his own numbers were also diminished.

Jackson now withdrew toward New Orleans and ordered the preparations of three lines of defense along canals that cut across the narrow plain that led to the city. At four and a half miles east of the city was the first line at the Rodriguez canal (actually a millrace), which

became known as the “Jackson line.” His workforce, much of it black slaves, deepened the canal and built a **rampart** that extended for more than half a mile from the river to a cypress swamp. He had four **batteries** built, and it was from this position, with the size of his defensive force rising daily, that he successfully fought off Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham**’s **reconnaissance with force at New Orleans** (28 December).

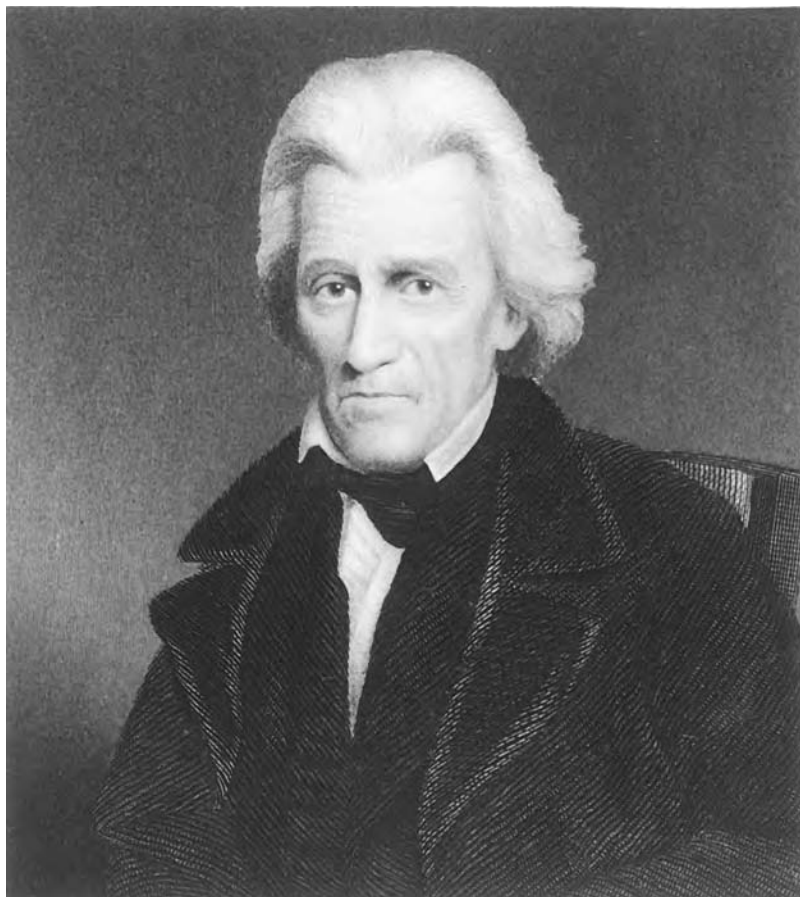
After this success, Jackson improved the length and strength of the Rodriguez line and installed three more batteries on improved footing as well as placing guns on the other side of the river to cover his right flank. With determination and the endless supply of ammunition, as arranged by Lafitte, the Americans won the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815) when the British, whose batteries and guns were inadequate, ran out of ammunition. More reinforcements arrived, more improvements were made, and a week later Jackson won his singular victory when the British made the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). Certain that the British would renew their invasion attempt, Jackson kept his army together until news of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had been confirmed. During this time, fever swept the militia, killing hundreds of men.

From 1815, Jackson was said to be the most popular man in America. He followed up his success in war with a military campaign that led to the acquisition of **Florida** in 1821 and his governorship there. Jackson’s star continued to rise, and he became the nation’s seventh president, serving between 1829 and 1837.

JAMAICA STATION. *See* RN STATIONS.

JAVA (1805) (RN). Captured from the French in May 1811, this **frigate** was bought into the **RN** and renamed the *Java*. This **ship** was **commissioned** to Captain **Henry Lambert** when it encountered the USS *Constitution*, Captain **William Bainbridge**, off Brazil on 29 December 1812. In the subsequent action, the Americans captured the *Java*, which had to be scuttled afterward because of the damage it suffered.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1805, Nantes, France, as the *Recommée*. Actual armament: (1812) 28 18-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 152’ 5½” ld × 39’ 11” × 12’ 9” dh, 1,073 tons. Crew: 400.



*Andrew Jackson, 1767–1845. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C10052*

JAVA (1814) (USN). Ordered in January 1813, this **ship** was intended to improve on the already successful large **frigates** *Constitution*, *United States*, and *President* (1800). It was **blockaded** in its port until the end of the war.

Type: 44-gun frigate. Launch: August 1814, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: 33 32-pdr lg, 20 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 44' 6" × 13' 8" dh, 1,508 tons. Crew: 400.

JAY TREATY (19 November 1794). Named for John Jay, a chief justice of the **United States**, this treaty was a wide-ranging document intended to establish amity between the United States and Britain. The British negotiator was William Wyndham Baron Grenville of Wotton. The treaty established the boundary between **BNA** and the United States and required the British to withdraw their troops and **garrisons** from American soil on or before 1 July 1796. British citizens living on American soil were allowed to remain without having to become U.S. citizens. Among the most significant conditions of the treaty that related to subsequent trade disputes between the two nations was the temporary easing by the British of the **Rule of 1756** by allowing free trade across the new border and allowing U.S. trade with British colonies in the West Indies and East Indies. The two nations exchanged ratifications in November 1795, and it came into effect on 29 February 1796 and was to end two years after the war in which Britain and France were then engaged (that date eventually came to be early 1803), when a new trade agreement would be negotiated. Efforts to reach new terms in such proposals as the **Monroe-Pinkney Treaty** of 1807 failed, allowing trade disputes to play a large role in the outbreak of war in 1812.

JEFFERSON (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, this **brig** was laid up in 1815 and decayed at its moorings.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1814, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: (1814) 4–24 pdr lg, 16 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 122' 11" gd × 33' 2" × 10' 5" dh, 600 tons. Crew: 160.

JEFFERSON, THOMAS (1743–1826). One of the most important of the founding fathers of the **United States**, Thomas Jefferson's presidential administrations (1801–1809) directly influenced events leading to the War of 1812. As a means of retaliating against the British **orders in council**, he initiated the American **Restrictive System**, which produced the **Nonimportation Act** (1806), the **Embargo Act** (1807), and the **Nonintercourse Act** (1809), none of which improved the situation. His response to the **Chesapeake-Leopard Affair** (22 June 1807) was to put the nation on a war footing, but it did not lead to much-needed improvements in the size and organization of the

U.S. Army and the **USN**, leaving both those forces in a weakened state from which they did not recover by the time war eventually came. **James Madison** continued many of Jefferson's policies and received his support on the road to war. It was Jefferson who naively predicted that the conquest of Canada would be "a mere matter of marching."

"JEFFERSON'S EMBARGO." *See* EMBARGO ACT (22 December 1807).

JESUP, THOMAS SIDNEY (1788–1860). Jesup was born in **Virginia** but grew up in **Kentucky**. He had little formal education and was a store clerk before joining the **U.S. Army** in 1808 as a **lieutenant** in the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry**.

Jesup was with the Seventh Infantry during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812) and was taken prisoner during the **capture of Detroit** (16 August); he was among the officers who were very critical of Hull's conduct. He was soon **paroled** and was summoned to **Washington**, where he awaited assignment. Jesup was promoted to **captain** in January 1813 and then **major** of the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in April. The month before, he had been ordered to **Cleveland, Ohio**, to act as a deputy **quartermaster general** and construct large **bateaux** for Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813). He commanded **Fort Stephenson** briefly in September and then joined Harrison's invasion of **UC** at **Amherstburg** but was not present during the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October).

During the winter of 1814, Jesup attended Hull's **court-martial** as a witness. In April, he was transferred to the **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, which he commanded as part of Brigadier General **Winfield Scott's** First Brigade of the Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** under Major General **Jacob Brown**, training at **Buffalo**. When Brown began his **campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), Jesup's **unit** was chosen to make the first advance during the bloodless **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July). During the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July), Jesup had his horse shot out from under him while the Twenty-fifth effectively covered Scott's left flank; he was

slighted by the wording of Brown's subsequent report and threatened to resign his **commission**. The **regiment** also played a critical role during the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), during which Jesup was wounded four times (which cost him the use of his right hand), but kept his feet until the final stages of the fighting. He was critical of Scott's leadership in the affair. Jesup and his regiment were sent to Buffalo to recuperate. They returned to active duty in September, and Jesup commanded them as part of the reserve during the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September). Following the war, he continued in the army, pursuing a somewhat controversial career and rising to **major general by brevet**.

JOHN ADAMS (USN). Out of **commission** between 1805 and 1812, this **ship** was armed but left inactive at **New York City**, much of its materiel and men being sent to the Great Lakes late in 1812. In February 1814, it was fitted out and carried peace commissioners to Europe. The *John Adams* was broken up at **Norfolk** in 1829.

Type: 28-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1799, Charleston, **South Carolina**. Standard armament: 24 12-pdr lg, eight 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 139' bp × 33' 3" × 16' 10" dr, 544 tons. Crew: 220.

JOHNSON, RICHARD MENTOR (1780–1850). Born in **Kentucky**, Johnson began a law career in 1802 and was later elected to the state legislature and then the U.S. House of Representatives. He was one of the **War Hawks**, a friend of **Henry Clay**, and in 1812 raised a **regiment** of volunteers of **Kentucky Militia** but saw no action in battle.

Early in 1813, Johnson obtained permission to raise a regiment of mounted **militia** riflemen with which, as its **colonel**, he **garrisoned Fort Wayne** briefly. Late in August, he led his 1,000-man **unit** to join the **Army of the Northwest** under Major General **William Harrison** at **Fort Meigs**. While Harrison embarked a large part of his force in the Captain **Oliver Perry's squadron** late in September to invade **UC**, Johnson went overland to **Detroit**. He crossed at **Sandwich** and joined Harrison in his pursuit of the retreating British force under Major General **Henry Procter**. At the resulting **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October), Johnson's mounted force played a key role

in breaking the British line, and, though wounded, he was said to have personally killed **Tecumseh** (a claim never clearly proven).

This was the end of Johnson's military accomplishments, but somewhat inflated stories of his military prowess earned him great fame. He continued to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives and then the U.S. Senate and was the vice president to Martin Van Buren from 1837 to 1841. During the 1836 campaign, this became a slogan for Johnson: "Rumpsey, dumpsey, rumpsey, dumpsey, Colonel Johnson killed Tecumseh."

JONES (1814A) (USN). See *SARATOGA* (USN).

JONES (1814B) (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** squadron on **Lake Ontario**, this brig was laid up in 1815 and sold as a hulk in 1825.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1814, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: (1814) 2–24 pdr lg, 18 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 122' 11" gd × 33' 2" × 10' 5" dh, 600 tons. Crew: 160.

JONES, JACOB (1768–1850). Born in Smyrna, **Delaware**, Jones was educated as a physician but in 1799 entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800). He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1801 and was in the USS *Philadelphia* in 1803, when it was captured during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805).

In 1810, Jones was promoted to **master commandant** in the *Wasp* (1805), in which on 18 October 1812 he captured HM Sloop *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, in a hard-fought battle north of **Bermuda**. Later in the day, HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, sailed into view and captured the badly damaged American and British vessels. A **court-martial** acquitted Jones of blame for the loss of the *Wasp*, and Congress voted him a gold medal in honor of his victory over the *Frolic*.

Jones was promoted to **captain** in March 1813 and sent to command the former British warship *Macedonian* at New London, **Connecticut**, but a British **blockade** prevented his sailing, and in the spring of 1814 he was sent to **Sackets Harbor** to command first the USS *General Pike* and then the USS *Mohawk*. He made several voyages with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** squadron on **Lake On-**

tario but saw no further action before the war ended. Jones became a **commodore** in 1821 and continued to serve in the USN until his death.

JONES, THOMAS AP CATESBY (1790–1858). Born in **Virginia**, Jones's name featured "ap," which is a Welsh term for "son of." He attended college before entering the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1807 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1812 at **New Orleans**, where he had been posted for four years.

Jones's most important achievement came when he commanded a flotilla of **gunboats** on **Lake Borgne**, watching out for the British **fleet** under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**. This led to the **battle of Lake Borgne** (14 December 1814), in which all the American vessels were captured or destroyed and Jones was severely wounded.

He continued in the navy following the war, was promoted to **master commandant** in 1820 and **captain** in 1829, and had a number of commands afloat. He spent much time in the Pacific, where in the 1840s he was involved in a series of incidents that marred his career, and he was forced to retire in 1853.

JONES, WILLIAM (1760–1831). Jones was born in Philadelphia and was an apprentice shipwright when he fought as a patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). In the 1790s, he gained some recognition as a successful merchant in Philadelphia, was elected a **Republican** congressman, but also ventured around the world between 1805 and 1807 on a merchant cruise.

On the resignation of Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** late in 1812, President **James Madison** convinced Jones to take the post. He brought new energy and direction to the department, ordering his officers to avoid single-**ship** engagements in favor of voyages with specific goals. Jones was successful in having new ships constructed on the eastern seaboard, and he supported the efforts of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** and Master Commandants **Oliver Perry** and **Thomas Macdonough** on the northern lakes, showing a special concern for affairs on **Lake Erie** and above. During his tenure, the **USN** expanded considerably, while Jones argued for fiscal responsibility and demanded that officers conform to the expectations of the depart-

ment. Generally assessed as effective in the post, Jones left the department on 1 December 1814 after making recommendations about how it could be more efficiently organized.

From May 1813, Jones assumed the responsibilities of Secretary of the Treasury **Albert Gallatin**, who went to Europe as a peace commissioner. This job frustrated him in his efforts to have new taxes levied to fund the needs of the **U.S. Army** and USN. At the same time, his deep involvement in the departments kept him from devoting his time to his personal enterprises, which accordingly suffered.

Following the war, Jones had a very unsuccessful term as president of the second Bank of the United States before returning to private life as a merchant and collector of the port of Philadelphia.

JULIA (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1812. It was captured by Commodore **Sir James Lucas Yeo's squadron** on 10 August 1813 and renamed the **Confiance (1813)**, then recaptured by **Chauncey** in October 1813. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 2-gun schooner. Launch: 1811, **Oswego, New York**, as a **merchantman**. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr lg, one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 53 tons. Crew: 36.

JULIA AND GROWLER, CAPTURE OF (10 August 1813). After several days of frustrating maneuvering to engage Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** near the **Niagara Peninsula**, Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** attempted to lure him close enough to fight during the evening of 10 August 1813 about 15 miles north of **Twelve Mile Creek**. He arranged his **squadron** in two parallel lines with six of his smaller **schooners** nearer Yeo as bait. Under light winds, Yeo closed on the Americans, and they began to exchange fire around 11:00 P.M. Soon Chauncey signaled the schooners to sail through his second line so that the **General Pike** and the other stronger vessels could focus on Yeo's flagship, the **Wolfe**. The commanders of the **Julia** and **Growler** turned away from Chauncey's line by mistake, and Yeo's squadron turned to cut them off and captured them. Chauncey had experienced great difficulty in keeping his poor-

sailing squadron together, and fearing that Yeo would cut off other vessels in the darkness, he consolidated his force and left the other two schooners to their fate. Yeo named them the *Confiance* (1813) and the *Hamilton* (1813), respectively, and added them to his line but found their sailing qualities so poor that he used them as transports.

JULIA VERSUS EARL OF MOIRA AND DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, ENGAGEMENT OF (31 July 1812). When the **American declaration of war** was made on 18 June, a number of American **merchantmen** took shelter at **Ogdensburg**. Late in July, Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey** heard that the **PM** vessels *Earl of Moira* and *Duke of Gloucester* were sailing for **Prescott**, and he feared they would attack the merchantmen. He sent acting Lieutenant Henry Wells in the recently converted *Julia* to intercept the British vessels and protect the merchantmen.

Wells came on the **PM** vessels off **Elizabethtown** on the afternoon of 31 July. The British vessels had much more firepower and more men and support on shore, but in the three-hour engagement neither side succeeded in causing any significant damage, and Wells finally fled for Ogdensburg in the early evening.

The British did not attack Ogdensburg at this time, and the schooners and the *Julia* sailed to **Lake Ontario** during the **Prevost–Dearborn armistice** (August–September 1812).

JUNON (RN). This former French **frigate** (not to be confused with the French *Junon* captured early in 1809 and, as *HMS Junon*, recaptured and burned by the French later that year) was taken at Mauritius and bought into the **RN** and named to replace the just-mentioned *Junon*. It arrived on the **North America Station** in 1812 and remained there through the war. A flotilla of 15 **USN gunboats** made an assault on the *Junon*, Captain **John Sanders**, on 20 June 1813 off **Norfolk, Virginia**. The *Junon* was broken up in 1817.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1803, Saint Malo, France, as *La Bellone*, captured 1810. Standard armament: 28 18-pdr, two 9-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 154' gd × 40' 3" × 12' 5" dh, 1,116 tons. Crew: 300.

JUNON, ASSAULT ON HMS (20 June 1813). On 19 June 1813, *HMS Junon*, Captain **James Sanders**, anchored near **Hampton**

Roads, Virginia; HM frigates *Narcissus*, Captain **James Lumley**, and *Barossa*, Captain William Sherriff, also anchored nearby. Late in the day, Sanders observed a flotilla of 15 **gunboats** in the Elizabeth River below **Norfolk**. These boats, variously armed with **long guns** (lg), **carronades** (crde), and **swivels**, were commanded by Master Commandant **Joseph Tarbell** and were manned by **USN** officers and seaman, **U.S. Marines**, and **Virginia Militia**. As ordered by Captain John Cassin, Tarbell intended to attack the *Junon*, believing its shallow anchorage and the light winds made it vulnerable.

At 2:30 A.M. on 20 June, Sanders detected the Americans approaching his **frigate**, which carried 46 lgs and crdes. Under light winds and as the tide went out, the gunboats soon opened fire, at which point Sanders got the *Junon* under way. The *Narcissus* and *Barossa* slowly came down toward the action, firing as they could at the Americans. Working carefully in the relatively shallow and unfamiliar waters, Sanders held off the Americans, who broke off the action an hour and a half after it commenced and withdrew.

The *Junon* suffered two men killed (one by an exploding gun) and three wounded, while Cassin reported one dead and two wounded. Clearly, the action was a minor one, although the frigate suffered damage to its rigging and hull and was seen later in the day careened against one of the other frigates and obviously under repair.

– K –

KAHNAWAKE. Also known as Caughnawaga, this was one of the native settlements, located opposite **Montreal** on Lake St. Louis, that formed part of the **Seven Nations**.

KANESTAKE. Also known as Oka, this was one of the native settlements, located west of **Montreal** on Lake of Two Mountains, that formed part of the **Seven Nations**.

KB (KNIGHT BACHELOR). *See* KNIGHTHOOD.

KCB (KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE BATH). *See* KNIGHTHOOD.

KCH (KNIGHT COMMANDER OF THE GUELPHIC ORDER [OF HANOVER]). *See* KNIGHTHOOD.

KEANE, JOHN (1781–1844). Born into a British family of some influence, Keane was appointed **captain** in the **British army** in a new **regiment** in 1794. It was soon disbanded, and he was put on **half pay** until 1799, when he joined the **44th Regiment of Foot** at Gibraltar as the **aide-de-camp** to a senior officer. He rose to **major** in 1802 and then **lieutenant colonel** of the **13th Regiment of Foot** in 1804, seeing action at Martinique in 1809. Keane was **brevetted to colonel** of the **60th Regiment of Foot** in 1812 and commanded a **brigade** in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814). Advanced to **major general** in June 1814, Keane was ordered to take a force to Jamaica; he was only 33 years old.

Keane reached Jamaica in November, expecting to serve under Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham** during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815), but Cochrane left Jamaica with most of his force later that month and before Pakenham arrived. This left Keane in command of the military's first stage in the expedition. **Mobile** had long been selected as the preferred landing place for an overland attack, but information they learned about American strength in that area convinced Cochrane and Keane to go to **New Orleans** by water. This resulted in the entire force suffering through an arduous staging process before reaching solid ground below New Orleans. It has often been alleged, without conclusive evidence, that Cochrane pressured the younger Keane to agree to this option.

Under Keane, the first 2,000 soldiers arrived at a point nine miles downriver of New Orleans on 23 December, provoking Major General **Andrew Jackson** to launch the **attack at Villeré's plantation** (23 December). The evidence suggests that the attack took Keane by surprise and that he had difficulty achieving command and control of his force. He was able to withstand the American assault, however, and hold his ground, though heavy casualties weakened the troops, who were already falling sick because of the cold and wet weather.

Pakenham arrived shortly thereafter and took command, eventually leading to the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815), in which Keane was seriously wounded.

Following the war, Keane (who was made a **KCB** on 2 January 1815) continued an active military career. He received numerous honors, including a **GCB** and a peerage in 1839. The record suggests that he was an unpopular officer, subject to criticism in various commands.

KENT COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Kent County was located around modern-day Chatham, Ontario, and was part of the Western District of UC. A **flank company** was formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812 as was one **troop** of **dragoons**. The Kent Militia were present at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August 1812) and the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813). In November 1813, after Major General **William Harrison**'s invasion of southwestern UC, a small group of militia formed the Loyal Kent Volunteers, or Kent Rangers, and were present at the **skirmishes at McCrea's Farm** (15 December 1813) and the **Longwoods** (4 March 1814).

KENTUCKY. Kentucky became a state in 1792 with its capital at Danville. In 1810, its population was about 407,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—five for, 0 against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were Charles Scott (**Republican**, 1808–1812) and Isaac Shelby (**Republican**, 1812–1816). The state was a strong supporter of the war, with individuals such as **Henry Clay** as leading proponents. About 4,000 Kentuckians joined the **U.S. Army**, and up to 22,000 marched with the **militia**.

KENTUCKY MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 44,000 officers and men on the rolls of the Kentucky Militia. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 **militia** in May 1812, Kentucky's quota was 5,500.

To meet this quota, Governor Charles Scott and his successor, Isaac Shelby, called for volunteers who came forward in great numbers. They formed part of the **Army of the Northwest**, eventually commanded by Major General **William Harrison**. In the October expedition to destroy native villages led by Major General **Samuel Hopkins**, there were 2,000 mounted Kentuckians. In the federal gov-

ernment's calls for militia mobilization in July 1814, the state's quota was again 5,500.

Elements of Kentucky Militia were present at such actions as the following: 1812, **Prophetstown** (19 November); 1813, **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), and **Moraviantown** (5 October); 1814, **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November).

In 1814, nearly 2,400 militia marched to join Major General **Andrew Jackson's** defense of **New Orleans**, and many of them fought during the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

Among the most prominent Kentucky officers during the war were **Samuel Hopkins**, **Richard Johnson**, and **Isaac Shelby**.

KERR, WILLIAM JOHNSON (1787–1845). Of mixed English and **Iroquois** ancestry, Kerr, a member of the **British Indian Department**, was a junior officer under **John Norton** when the **Grand River Six Nations** operated along the **Niagara River** early in the war and fought at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) and **Smyth's failed invasion** of UC the following November. He led the Six Nations to victory at the **battle of Beaver Dams** on 24 June 1813 and was captured, probably at the **battle of Lundy's Lane**, on 25 July 1814 and remained in captivity for the duration of the war.

KEY, FRANCIS SCOTT (1779–1843). A resident of **Maryland**, Key was educated in law and in that capacity found himself in the British **fleet** under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** that made the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September 1814). Under a flag of truce, Key was in the middle of negotiating the release of Dr. William Beanes, who had been taken prisoner during the British **burning of Washington** (24–25 August). Involuntarily, Key was witness to the remarkably powerful bombardment of **Fort McHenry** and other shore **batteries** that began early on 13 September and continued into the night. When dawn broke on 14 September and Key saw that the American flag still flew in the fort, he was moved to write a poem to express his pride. His "The Star-Spangled Banner," designed to be sung to the popular pub tune "To Anacreon in Heaven," was soon published, and its popularity spread until it became a old standby at

patriotic gatherings. It was not until 1931 that the song became the official anthem of the **United States**.

KICKAPOO. In 1812, the people of this nation (their name meant “he who moves about, standing now here, now there”) lived along the Wabash and Illinois Rivers in **Illinois Territory**. They were fully involved in the fur trade and had frequent clashes with American settlers. Although a portion of the nation preferred to live in peace with the Americans, many warriors followed **Tecumseh** and eventually were British allies.

There was a large contingent of Kickapoo at the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811), after which the raids on settlers increased. Kickapoo warriors under Pakoisheecan unsuccessfully **invested Fort Harrison** (3–16 September 1812), while others perpetrated the **massacre at Pigeon Roost** (3 September). About 150 mounted warriors harassed Major General **Samuel Hopkins**’s expedition to destroy native villages along the Illinois River in October. But on 18 October, a 300-man force under Governor Ninian Edwards of Illinois Territory destroyed a Kickapoo village on Lake Peoria, killing 24 people. In November, Edwards commanded 1,500 men who destroyed villages along the Wabash River.

The Kickapoo dispersed to the north, while close to 200 warriors and their families joined Tecumseh at **Amherstburg, UC**, and saw action at **Fort Meigs** (May, July 1813) and **Fort Stephenson** (2 August). Although some warriors were disenchanted with the British after the latter action and returned to their homelands, many stayed with Tecumseh and fought at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813).

Following this, a number of warriors remained in UC with the “**Western Indians**” at **Burlington Heights** and crossed the border for minor raids on the Americans. Others returned to the **Old Northwest**, where they participated in the **siege of Fort Shelby** (Prairie du Chien, 17–20 July) and the **first** and **second skirmishes at the Rock Island Rapids** (21 July and 5 September 1814).

A portion of the Kickapoos continued to clash with the Americans for years after the war, although representatives from some Kickapoo tribes had signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) to ally themselves with the U.S. government. Others signed peace treaties

during the council meeting at **Portage des Sioux** in the summer of 1815.

KING GEORGE III (1738–1820). As the British sovereign from 1760, George III enjoyed great popularity in the early decades of his reign, but the defeats in the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and clashes with parliamentary leaders eroded this popularity. George also suffered bouts of insanity, believed to have been caused by the disease porphyria, which permanently disabled him in 1811, after which his eldest son, the **Prince of Wales**, assumed his duties as the **Prince Regent**.

KING'S OWN REGIMENT. *See* 4TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army).

KING'S REGIMENT. *See* 8TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army).

KINGSTON, UC. Founded in the 1780s, Kingston is located at the confluence of **Lake Ontario** and the **St. Lawrence River**, on the mainland north of **Wolfe Island**; **Montreal** is about 180 miles downstream, and **Sackett's Harbor, New York**, is about 35 miles south by boat. In 1812, it had a population of about 1,000 people and was a key transshipment point on Lake Ontario. The **PM** had a naval yard across the harbor from the town on Point Frederick, which the **RN** took over in May 1813. There was no **fort** at Kingston at this time, although several **batteries** were erected on the approaches to the harbor as activity rapidly increased in the town during the war.

KNIGHTHOOD. The British monarchy presented knighthoods for distinguished service, after which a man was referred to as “Sir” and his wife as “Lady.” There were a number of orders of knighthood, and many men received more than one such dignity during their careers. Among the most popular was the Order of the Bath, which takes its name from the symbolic bathing that originally formed part of a man's preparations to be made a knight. It had three divisions: first, Companion of the Bath (**CB**); second, Knight Commander of the Bath (**KCB**); and third, Knight Grand Cross of the Bath (**GCB**).

The Royal Guelphic Order was created in 1815 to recognize distinguished service to the Britain and had three divisions: Knight of the Guelphic Order (of Hanover) (KH), Knight Commander of the Guelphic Order (of Hanover) (**KCH**), and Knight Grand Cross of the Guelphic (of Hanover) (GCH). Knight Bachelor (**KB**) had these same privileges but did not belong to an order.

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LA PRESENTATION, FORT. Originally built in the 1750s by the French on the west bank of the Oswegatchie River, across from the later established village of **Ogdensburg**, this fort consisted of a stone **barracks** in 1812.

LACOLLE, LC. This small village was located on the Lacolle River about two miles west of the **Richelieu River** and five miles north of the **New York** border.

LACOLLE, LC, SKIRMISH AT (20 November 1812). This brief skirmish marked the end of Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s plan to invade **LC** and capture **Montreal** in the fall of 1812. Through the summer, he had worked with **New York** Governor Daniel Tompkins to send **militia** and **regular units** to **Plattsburgh** in preparation for a major invasion. Dearborn himself did not arrive there until 10 November, when he found the force greatly weakened by illness and lax discipline.

Dearborn's effective force numbered about 2,000 **regulars** and 3,000 **militia** (some of which were from **Vermont**). He split it into two **brigades**, the first under Brigadier General Joseph Bloomfield and the second under Brigadier General **John Chandler**, and began his march north on 16 November. The Americans reached **Champlain**, New York, by 19 November, and here it was confirmed for Dearborn that about half the militia units were unwilling to cross the border.

Early on 20 November, Colonel **Zebulon Pike** crossed the border with about 650 of his **Fifteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and a second group of about 300 militia apparently intending to cut off a

party of native warriors seen in the area. Instead, they advanced on a British guardhouse at **Lacolle** and engaged a British **picket** consisting of about 25 of the **Select Embodied Militia** and 15 natives under Captain Bernard Panet. The British put up a brief defense and then retreated, allowing Pike's men to destroy the guardhouse and surrounding buildings.

Pike began to withdraw from Lacolle, at which point the New York militia coming from the border fired at his regiment by mistake and the friendly forces engaged each other. When the error was detected, the Americans marched back to Champlain, having suffered two dead, 12 wounded, and five missing.

Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry** arrived at Lacolle with about 100 men of the **Canadian Voltigeurs** and 230 **Kahnawake** warriors and shadowed the American retreat.

Dearborn ordered his men to prepare food for a march but instead of heading for Montreal returned to Plattsburgh, where most of the militia was disbanded and the regulars went into winter quarters at Plattsburgh and **Burlington, Vermont**, and **Greenbush, New York**.

LACOLLE MILL, BATTLE OF (30 March 1814). Major General **James Wilkinson**'s last-ditch effort to achieve success on the northern frontier was to invade LC along the **Richelieu River** route in March 1814. He led a 4,000-man force from **Plattsburgh, New York**, and **Burlington, Vermont**, to the area of **Champlain, New York**, during the final week of March. His **division** consisted of elements of the **Fourth, Sixth, Tenth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Twentieth, Twenty-third, Twenty-fifth, Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, and Thirty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles**; the **U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**; and the recently formed **Corps of Artillery** with 11 guns. Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb** had brought parts of the **Ninth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments** from Burlington and taken some of them on a raid of Philipsburg, LC, on **Missisquoi Bay** on 22 March.

The British had barred the road into LC with fallen trees, their first outpost being at **Lacolle**, in a three-story stone mill near a bridge on the southern side of the Lacolle River and a wooden **barracks** and **breastwork** on the northern side. The **garrison** consisted of a detachment commanded by Major **Richard Handcock** with about 180

regulars (one **company** each of the **13th Regiment of Foot** and the **Frontier Light Infantry**, 70 of the 1st Battalion of **Royal Marines**, and four of the **Rocket Corps** with **Congreve rockets**). There was a company each of **Canadian Fencibles** and **Canadian Voltigeurs** at two nearby outposts and 550 more of the Royal Marines and the 13th at **Isle-aux-Noix**, seven miles north.

Wilkinson crossed the border early on 30 March, and his advance soon occupied **Odelltown**. By 8:00 A.M., the Americans were near Lacolle, but a guide misled them, and the British **light infantry** slowed them with skirmishing. Around 1:00 P.M., Wilkinson sent 1,200 men to circle westward and northward of the village and cut off the road to Isle-aux-Noix. Because of the snow cover and road conditions, he could get only a 12-pdr **field gun** and a **howitzer** into range. The delays allowed the **flank companies** of the 13th Foot to arrive in **gunboats** manned by the **RN** from Isle-aux-Noix and hurry up the ice-covered Lacolle River from the east to the mill. Wilkinson's guns opened on the mill but caused little damage, and his **infantry** marched forward to rush the mill but fell back under a hail of fire.

British **musketry** and the rockets concentrated on the **artillery** crews, who suffered a high rate of casualties. Hancock sent the flank companies of the 13th to capture the guns. The guns were silenced, but the fierce firefight ended with the British withdrawing. Infantrymen now served the guns.

The Canadian Fencibles and Canadian Voltigeurs, with a few native warriors, arrived next, having found a way through the American lines. Hancock sent a larger part of his force to **sally** out again, and this time they succeeded in briefly holding the guns and **spiking** them before being pushed back.

As darkness fell, Wilkinson called off the attack. It rained heavily that night, and a thaw commenced, ending the invasion. The beaten Americans slogged their way back to Lake Champlain.

Hancock reported 11 killed, 46 wounded, and four missing. The Americans lost 13 killed and 51 wounded. Wilkinson's days of command in the field were over.

LADY OF THE LAKE (USN). Henry Eckford designed and built this vessel for use in Commodore Isaac Chauncey's squadron on Lake

Ontario. It was renowned for its speed and handling, resembling one of the Baltimore clippers. It was laid up after 1817, sold as a **merchantman** in 1825 and wrecked the next year.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1813, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: one 9-pdr crde. Dimensions: 89 tons. Crew: about 35.

LADY PREVOST (PM/RN). This vessel was part of Commander **Robert Barclay's** squadron captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was sold as a **merchantman** in 1815.

Type: 13-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1812, **Amherstburg, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) three 9-pdr lg, 10 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 68' ld × 18' 6" × 9' 3" dh, 96 tons. Crew: 59.

LAFITTE, JEAN (ca. 1780–ca. 1826). The details of Lafitte's birth and early life are uncertain, although he likely was a native of Haiti whose family fled from hostilities there to the area of **New Orleans**. His widowed mother remarried, making it possible for Jean to receive a good education, including some military training. At an early age, he went to sea with older brothers who acted as merchants, **privateers**, or pirates as the situation demanded. Lafitte gained fortune and power and became the leader of the **Baratarians** at their settlement on Grande Terre Island in Lake Barataria on the southwestern coast of the Mississippi River delta. He had firm connections with key members of the New Orleans society and used them to promote his enterprises.

By 1812, Lafitte was sailing under a **letter of marque** from newly independent New Granada (modern Colombia) to act against Spanish vessels. This made him a pirate to the British and Americans, however, whose vessels he captured indiscriminately. Local officials tried and failed repeatedly to curtail his smuggling operations, but by 1814 the noose was drawing tighter on him and his followers; his brother was arrested about this time, and a long list of charges had been leveled against Jean. In September, through Commander **Nicholas Lockyer, RN**, the British made a bid for his help during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815), but rather than answer them directly, he took this information to American officials at New Orleans with the offer to

put his resources at their service in exchange for a free pardon for him and the Baratarians. While this was under consideration, a combined **USN** and **U.S. Army** raid under Master Commandant **Daniel Patterson** on Grande Terre Island in September destroyed the Baratarians' holdings. Among the papers discovered was proof of the involvement of some of New Orleans's most influential citizens in the Baratarian operation, which served as a wedge to have the Lafitte charges thrown out and his offer of help accepted.

Major General **Andrew Jackson** rejected Lafitte's help from the start, but the promise of seamen for the weakly manned **USN** vessels, artillerists for the **batteries** being built below New Orleans, a vast store of much-needed ammunition and powder, and reliable information about the Mississippi delta finally won Jackson over later in December.

In recognition of their service during the defense of New Orleans, President **James Madison** issued a full pardon for Lafitte and the Baratarians in February 1815. He soon resumed his piratical activities, first from a Texas base and then in Mexico, until his death, the circumstances of which are not known.

LALAWETHIKA. *See* PROPHET, THE.

LAMBERT, HENRY (?–1812). The son of an **RN** officer, Lambert joined the navy as a **midshipman** in 1795 and immediately saw action against the French. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1801, **commander** in 1803, and **post captain** in April 1805. Much of this latter service was in the Indian Ocean where, at Mauritius in 1810, he was part of a **squadron** of **frigates** captured by the French; Lambert was cleared of blame by a subsequent **court-martial**.

In the summer of 1812, he received the **commission** for **HMS Java** (1805) after its capture from the French in 1811, and while on a voyage carrying dignitaries to India, he encountered the **USS Constitution**, Captain **William Bainbridge**, off Brazil on 29 December 1812. Though outgunned, Lambert gamely chased the *Constitution* and then fought what is considered the most tactically complex of the British–American frigate actions. He and his crew performed well but suffered a devastating loss. Lambert was wounded by a **musket**

ball and died on 4 January 1813 on San Salvador Island, where he had been landed.

LAMBERT, JOHN (?–1847). This officer joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1791 and by 1813 had risen to **major general**. Late in 1814, he was sent to join Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) but arrived only in time to participate in the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815). In this action, he commanded the reserve but on the death of Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham** moved up to take command. Seeing the futility of pursuing a lost cause, he ordered a retreat and then, in consultation with Cochrane and the other senior officers, decided to withdraw completely to Cochrane's **fleet**. This took weeks of torturous and dangerous effort to complete, at which point he and Cochrane cooperated in the bloodless **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February). News of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) ended the fighting.

Lambert remained in the army following the war, rising eventually to the rank of **general**, having been knighted twice, the second honor being the **GCB**.

LATEEN-RIG. This ancient rig features a triangular sail set on a very long spar. The forward end of the spar is brought down toward the deck, raising the after end so that the sail may be fully set. Some **gunboats** and **galleys** used this rig during the war, occasionally having two masts.

LAUGHARNE, THOMAS LAMB PULLEN (1786–1863). Laugharne was born in 1786 and joined the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1798, the next year being advanced to **midshipman**. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1806 and **commander** in 1811 and took command of HM Sloop *Alert* in February 1812. He was on a cruise west of the Azores on 13 August when he was intercepted by the USS *Essex*, Captain **David Porter**. After a very brief but violent action, Laugharne surrendered to the more heavily armed Americans. He was honorably acquitted in the subsequent **court-martial** and given a **commission** in HM Sloop *Achates*, his final RN command.

He was an inspecting commander in the British Coast Guard in the

1820s and was promoted to **captain** in 1832, after which he is known to have gone on **half pay** with an additional pension granted for his wounds.

LAWRENCE (USN). The vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** **squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813 and in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's** **campaign on the Upper Lakes** (July–September 1814). It was sunk for preservation at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in 1815 and decayed.

Type: 20-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1813, Erie, Pennsylvania. Actual armament: (1813) two 12-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 109' 9" ld × 29' × 9' dh, 493 tons. Crew: 159.

LAWRENCE, JAMES (1781–1813). Born in Burlington, **New Jersey**, Lawrence entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1798. He was on active duty during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was promoted to **lieutenant** in April 1802. He was part of **Stephen Decatur's** raid to destroy the captured USS *Philadelphia* at **Tripoli** in February 1804.

He was advanced to **master commandant** in 1810 and commanded the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* in Commodore **John Rodger's** **squadron** in the summer of 1812. On 24 February 1813, he captured HM Sloop *Peacock*, Commander **William Peake**, off the Demerara River (Guyana), South America. Lawrence was promoted to **captain** in March 1813 and moved into the USS *Chesapeake* at Boston. Lawrence sailed out to do battle with HMS *Shannon* (1806), Captain **Philip Broke**, on 1 June 1813 and lost. Lawrence was seriously wounded during the battle and called out to his crew, "**Don't give up the ship,**" as he was carried below to the surgeon. He died three days later and was buried at **Halifax, Nova Scotia**.

LAWRENCE, WILLIAM (ca. 1781–1841). A resident of **Maryland**, this officer joined the U.S. Army in 1801 as a **lieutenant** in the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. He transferred into the **Second U.S. Regiment of Infantry** the next year, rising to **captain** in 1810 and to **major** in April 1814. At this time, he commanded **Fort Bowyer** at **Mobile** in **Mississippi Territory** with a **garrison** of 130 officers and men. He successfully defended the **fort** during the British

attack on Fort Bowyer (15 September), for which he was **breveted to lieutenant colonel**. Lambert spent the next months improving the fort but lost it in the bloodless British **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February 1815). Lawrence remained in the army following the war, achieving the rank of **colonel** in 1828. He resigned his **commission** in 1831.

LC. See LOWER CANADA.

LE COUTEUR, JOHN (1794–1875). Born on the island of Jersey in the English Channel and the son of a military officer, John Le Couteur entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the 96th Regiment of Foot in 1810 after nearly three years in the **Royal Military College**. In November 1811, he transferred into the **104th Regiment of Foot** as a **lieutenant** and joined it in **New Brunswick** in the summer of 1812.

Posted to the **light company** of the 104th, Le Couteur marched overland to **Quebec** with part of the **regiment** in the early months of 1813 and began his active involvement in the war. He was present during the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May) and through the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). In 1814, he fought at **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the action at **Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Le Couteur advanced to **captain** in 1817 and then went on **half pay**, living a productive life as a prominent citizen on Jersey. He maintained his military links, was **breveted to lieutenant colonel** in 1858, and was made a **KB** in 1872.

Le Couteur described his service in a journal based on his war diary, which is a detailed ground's-eye view of the various actions and the daily activities of a young officer. This significant work was expertly edited and reorganized by the Canadian historian Donald E. Graves and published in 1993 under the title *Merry Hearts Make Light Days: The War of 1812 Journal of Lieutenant John Le Couteur, 104th Foot*.

LEANDER (1780) (RN). This **frigate** was involved in the killing of an American seaman on 25 April 1806 off **New York City** in an inci-

dent that became known as the *Leander Affair*. It was later renamed and sold out of the service in 1817.

Type: 50-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 1780 Chatham, UK. Actual armament: (1806) 22 24-pdr lg, 22 12-pdr lg, 12 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 146' gd × 40' 8" × 17' 5" dh, 1,556 tons. Crew: 350.

LEANDER (1813) (RN). This **ship** and HMS *Newcastle* were built expressly to contend with the large American **frigates**, such as the USS *Constitution*. Under the command of Captain **Sir George Collier**, the *Leander* overtook and captured the U.S. Brig *Rattlesnake* off Sable Island (22 June 1814). In company with HMS *Newcastle* and HMS *Acasta* on 11 March 1815, Collier recaptured HMS *Levant* near the Cape Verde Islands, failing to catch up to the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, and its second **prize** HMS *Cyane*. The *Leander* was broken up in 1830.

Type: 50-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 1813, Blackwall, UK. Actual armament: (1814) 34 24-pdr lg, one 9-pdr lg, 24 42-pdr crde, one 5½" **howitzer**. Dimensions: 174' ld × 44' 10½" × 14' 4" dh, 1,556 tons. Crew: 450.

LEANDER (1780) AFFAIR (25 April 1806). In April 1806, as part of the British policy of restricting trade with France, a **squadron** of British vessels including HMS *Leander* (1780), Captain Henry Whitby, was cruising off **New York City**, routinely intercepting **merchantmen** and inspecting their cargoes for goods from France. On 25 April, the *Leander* fired a shot at the American merchantman *Richard* to make it stop for inspection. The shot from the *Leander* hit the taffrail of the *Richard*, throwing up a wooden splinter that instantly killed a seaman named **John Pierce**. When the *Richard* reached port, the crew spread news of what had happened and made a public display of Pierce's body. This provoked much public outrage and prompted the U.S. government to forbid the *Leander* and its consorts from anchoring in any American ports. Since he was absent from his vessel when the incident occurred, Whitby was absolved of blame in a subsequent **court-martial**, further arousing American anger over British policies and practices.

LEANDER'S (1813) PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF THE RATTLESNAKE (22 June 1814). HMS *Leander* (1813), Captain Sir

George Collier, encountered the U.S. Brig *Rattlesnake*, Lieutenant **James Renshaw**, off Sable Island on 22 June 1814 and made chase. The *Rattlesnake* was returning from a long cruise during which it had been pursued by a British **frigate** and escaped only by jettisoning all but two of its guns. Renshaw now had his last two guns thrown overboard along with other equipment but failed to escape the speedy *Leander*. When Collier opened fire on the brig, Renshaw lowered his flag to prevent a massacre.

LEANDER (1813) SQUADRON'S PURSUIT AND RECAPTURE OF LEVANT (11 March 1815). On 10 March 1815, Captain **Charles Stewart** anchored the USS *Constitution* at Porto Playa in the Cape Verde Islands with two recently captured **prizes**, HMS *Cyane* and HMS *Levant*. The next day, HMS *Leander* (1813), Captain **Sir George Collier**, appeared off the harbor with HM ships *Newcastle* and *Acasta*. Although he had the protection of a neutral port, Stewart put to sea immediately, and the British made chase. The *Cyane* escaped, but the *Levant* fell behind, and all three British **captains**, believing it was a **frigate**, followed it, allowing the *Constitution* to escape. Misty weather conditions and a misunderstanding about signals are said to have led to this tactical error. After stopping at Porto Playa briefly, Collier separated from his consorts and searched for the *Constitution* but failed to find it. In his *Naval History of Great Britain*, William James criticized Collier's conduct in this affair, prompting the officer to commit suicide.

LEEDS COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Leeds County was located around **Gananoque** and was part of the Johnstown District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its two **infantry regiments** in 1812, as were a **troop** of **dragoons** and two **rifle** companies, elements of which participated in the **attack on Ogdensburg** (22 February 1813).

LEEWARD ISLANDS STATION. *See* RN STATIONS.

LEGION. This term appears occasionally during the war in reference to American military **units**, such as those of the **District of Columbia Militia** before its reorganization in 1813. A legion was a self-

contained unit composed of **infantry**, **artillery**, and **cavalry**. From 1792 until 1796, the **U.S. Army** was known as the Legion of the **United States**, which consisted of sublegions each of which had infantry, artillery, cavalry, and **rifles** totaling about 1,300 men.

LENNOX COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Lennox and Addington County was located just west of **Kingston** and was part of the Midland District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, as was a **troop** of **dragoons**.

LEOPARD (RN). Under Captain **Salisbury Humphrys**, the *Leopard* intercepted and fired on the USS *Chesapeake* off **Chesapeake Bay** on 22 June 1807 in the incident that became known as the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair*. Converted to a troopship in 1810–1811, the *Leopard* was wrecked off Anticosti Island in the Gulf of St. Lawrence on 14 June 1814.

Type: 50-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 1790, Sheerness, UK. Actual armament: (1807) 22 24-pdr lg, 24 12-pdr lg, six 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 146' × 40' 8" × 17' 6", 1,044 tons. Crew: 356.

LETHBRIDGE, ROBERT (?–1831). This officer joined the **British army** in 1776 as an **ensign** in the **60th Regiment of Foot**. By the time of the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), he had risen to the rank of **colonel** when Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** put him in charge of British defenses between **Montreal** and **Kingston**. Lethbridge was active in fortifying the villages and organizing the **militia**. He overstepped his authority and contravened Prevost's policy of nonaggression when he led an aborted attack by boat against **Ogdensburg, New York**, on 4 October. Prevost replaced Lethbridge with Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Pearson and recalled him to command at Montreal.

LETTER OF MARQUE. The origins of this term dated to the 12th century, when sovereigns issued permits, or licenses (letters of reprisal), to merchants so that they could take any action necessary to gain compensation for goods, vessels, and men seized from them in territorial waters. Letters of marque were issued for similar activity in foreign seas. By 1812, these licenses (combined into a single letter

of marque and reprisal) were known simply as letters of marque and were obtained by merchants who wanted to arm their **merchantmen** to defend themselves or to take aggressive action when necessary. They differed from **privateers** in that they had smaller wage-earning crews, and their excursions were referred to as “voyages” rather than “cruises.”

LEVANT (RN). Commissioned to Captain **George Douglas**, this vessel was captured, along with HMS *Cyane*, by the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Charles Stewart**, off Madeira on 20 February 1815. A British **squadron** under Captain **Sir George Collier** recaptured *Levant* on 11 March 1815, while the *Constitution* and the *Cyane* escaped. The *Levant* was broken up in 1820.

Type: 20-gun **sixth-rate**. Launch: 1813, Chester, UK. Actual armament: (1815) two 6-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 115' 6" ud × 29' 8" × 8' 6" dh, 454 tons. Crew: 135.

LEWIS, MORGAN (1754–1844). Born in **New York City**, Lewis was educated in law and served widely during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), following which he returned to his law practice and joined the **militia**. He was an influential **Federalist** and served **New York** as the attorney general, a supreme court justice, governor from 1804 to 1808, and later senator.

In the spring of 1812, Lewis was appointed the **quartermaster general** of the **U.S. Army** with the rank of **brigadier general**. In March 1813, he was promoted to **major general** and served under Major General **Henry Dearborn** and commanded the attack on **Fort George** (27 May), although he played no apparent active role in the landing or fighting. During Dearborn's illness in June, he briefly held command before being sent to **Sacket's Harbor**. Lewis was second in command during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). Here again he took part in none of the fighting. He missed the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November) because of illness and contributed to the chaos of the operation by issuing conflicting orders when Wilkinson was prostrated by illness. Lewis was in charge of the military defenses of New York City through 1814. The next year, he returned to private life and pursued his interest in political and societal matters.

LEWISTON AND MANCHESTER, RAIDS ON (19 and 21 December 1813). While Colonel **John Murray**'s detachment executed the **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 December 1813), a second force, under Major General **Phineas Riall**, crossed the **Niagara River** in the early hours of 19 December and advanced on **Lewiston**. He commanded about 400 officers and men of the **1/1st** and **1/41st Regiments of Foot** and a large body of the “**Western Indians**” commanded by **Matthew Elliott**.

Riall's detachment quickly contained Lewiston and then overtook **Fort Gray** after a brief fight against the 60 **New York Militia** who held it. About 40 **Canadian Volunteers** under Major Benajah Mallory hurried down from **Manchester** to support this **battery** but soon withdrew under the weight of the British fire. A few **Tuscarora** warriors engaged part of the British force, which chased them toward the nearby Tuscarora village, where the warriors kept up a strong enough fire to prompt the British to withdraw. Casualty estimates suggest that about a dozen Americans were killed during the raid.

Elliott's warriors got into liquor and ran amok, terrorizing the locals and burning property indiscriminately; in their frenzy, they killed two of their own men and a British soldier who was trying to protect citizens. It was said that some of the **regulars** got into drink also and began looting. Some of the **Grand River Six Nations** are said to have crossed the river and burned the Tuscarora village.

Riall remained at Lewiston, and on 21 December, Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** ordered him to seize the mills and storehouses at Manchester. Riall advanced with the regulars and a smaller band of natives to the village, where Mallory and the Canadian Volunteers put up a good fight, slowly withdrawing and destroying a key bridge behind them; at least one American was killed and several were captured, while British losses were not recorded. The British burned everything they could not carry off from Manchester. Drummond then sent orders to burn every building between Manchester and **Fort Niagara**, and this was done.

LEWISTON, NEW YORK. This hamlet was founded in 1805 about six miles south of the mouth of the **Niagara River** and was named for then-Governor **Morgan Lewis**. It became the northern landing of the portage company developed by **Peter Porter** and his associates

and was a busy transshipment point with warehouses and so on, though in 1812 it had only a dozen dwellings.

LICENSE TRADE. The **Enemy Trade Act** of 6 July 1812 by the **U.S. Congress** prohibited all American trade with British ports, although it allowed for trade with neutral ports. Many American merchants ignored this rule, and the British facilitated this by granting them licenses so that they would not be seized by British warships or **privateers**. Considerable amounts of American goods and materiel were shipped to the Canadian provinces and to Portugal and Spain to support the British campaigns there. To put an end to the license trade, **President James Madison** tried to get Congress to place an embargo on all shipping in the summer of 1813 but failed. On 29 July, Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** ordered all his commanders to seize American vessels that appeared to be carrying on such trade, and an act was passed on 2 August 1813 to make such license trade illegal, but vessels were still free to sail. Congress did approve a new **Embargo Act** on 17 December 1813, but this was repealed the following April, and the illegal trade with the British continued.

LIEUTENANT. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY; RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

LIEUTENANT GENERAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR. In **BNA**, this was a civil appointment at the head of a province's government and was usually held by a military officer; the officers were commonly referred to as the president and administrator of the government. In the **United States**, this was also a civil appointment but subordinate to a state's governor.

LIGHT ARTILLERY (U.S.). *See* REGIMENT OF LIGHT ARTILLERY (U.S.).

LIGHT COMPANY. The light company was the left **flank company** when its **regiment** was in formation. Men were selected for this **company** on the basis of their training in **light infantry** tactics and capability for independent action.

LIGHT DRAGOONS (U.S.). *See* FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS; REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS (U.S.); SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS.

LIGHT INFANTRY. Most **infantry regiments** had a **company** trained in the execution of light infantry tactics. These included acting as **skirmishers** in advance of the main body and or on its flanks to prevent a surprise attack, acting as scouts, harassing an enemy's position, covering the main body in retreat, or pursuing the enemy in retreat. According to one British manual, men of "vigilance, activity, and intelligence" were required for this role, and they received training to perform without being under the constant eye of their commander and without exposing themselves to unnecessary danger. Some regiments, such as the British **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment**, were trained as a whole in such tactics. Commanders in the field would often collect the light infantry companies from their regiments to act as temporary separate corps. Among the British, Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** was considered an expert in light infantry training and deployment.

LIMBER. This was a two-wheeled wagon, drawn by a team of horses, to which the rear end, or trail, of a **field gun** could be attached.

LINCOLN COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Lincoln County was located on the **Niagara Peninsula** and was part of the Niagara District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its five **infantry regiments** in 1812, as were two **troops** of **dragoons**, two **companies** of **artillery**, and the **Colored Corps**. After the formation of the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia**, many Lincolns remained active throughout the war as **sedentary militia**.

Elements of the Lincoln Militia participated in the following actions: 1812, **Detroit** (16 August), **Queenston Heights** (13 October), and **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Fort**

George (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), and **Lewis-ton** (19–21 December); 1814, **Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

Among their most active and prominent officers were **Thomas Clark** and **William Merritt**.

LINE-OF-BATTLE SHIP. *See* SHIP OF THE LINE.

LINNET (RN). Renamed shortly after its launch, the *Linnet*, Commander **Daniel Pring**, was part of Captain **George Downie's squadron** that was captured at the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). It was laid up in 1815 and allowed to decay.

Type: 16-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1814, **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, as the **Niagara (1814A)**. Actual armament: 16 24-pdr lg. Dimensions: 82' 6" ld × 27' × 6' 8" dh, 350 tons. Crew: 99.

LITTLE BELT (1801) (RN). Captured by the British in 1807, this vessel was **commissioned** to Commander **Arthur Bingham** when it encountered the USS *President*, Captain **John Rodgers**, on 16 May 1811 off **Chesapeake Bay**. In a brief battle that became known as the **President–Little Belt Affair**, it was badly damaged, and after its return to **Halifax** for repairs, it was sold out of the service.

Type: 20-gun **sixth-rate ship-sloop**. Launch: 1801, Copenhagen, as the Danish *Lille Belt*. Actual armament: two 9-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 116' 4" gd × 30' 4" × 12' 5½" dh, 460 tons. Crew: 121.

LITTLE BELT (1810) (PM/RN). Captured by the British at **Fort Mackinac** on 17 July 1812 and renamed, this vessel ended up as part of Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813). It was destroyed in a British raid at **Buffalo** (30 December 1813).

Type: 3-gun **sloop**. Launch: 1810, **Black Rock, New York**, as **merchantman Friend's Good Will**. Actual armament: (1813) one 9-pdr lg, two 6-pdr lg. Dimensions: 60 tons. Crew: 20.

LIVERPOOL PACKET (British Letter of Marque). The origins of this **schooner** are unknown. It was captured by the **RN** as the *Black*

Joke, a **tender** to a slaver, and sold at auction in **Halifax** in November 1811 to merchants in Liverpool, **Nova Scotia**. Its owners acquired a **letter of marque** for it on 18 August 1812, the second such license issued since the war started. By December, it had made at least 23 captures, most of which were tied up in legalities since the license had been issued before **Britain's proclamation of war** (9 January 1813); most were resolved in favor of the owners and crews late in 1814. Under a series of captains, of whom Joseph Barss was the best known, the *Liverpool Packet* became a scourge to the New England shippers, and at one point a vessel was outfitted to find and destroy it but failed.

The American **privateer** *Thomas*, of Portsmouth, **New Hampshire**, captured the *Liverpool Packet* in June 1813, after which it sailed unsuccessfully as the letter of marque *Young Teazer's Ghost* and then *Portsmouth Packet*. HM Sloop *Fantome* recaptured the schooner in October 1813. It was sold at auction and sailed again in 1814 as a profitable letter of marque. Following the war, the schooner was sold to merchants in the West Indies.

Type: 5-gun schooner. Launch: ?. Armament: one 6-pdr lg, two 4-pdr lg, two 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: Approximately 53' ud × 18' 11" × 6' 6" dh, 67 tons. Crew: 40.

LIVERPOOL, ROBERT BANKS JENKINSON, LORD (1770–1828). Jenkinson was first elected to Parliament in 1790 as a **Tory** and in the decade before the war held three cabinet posts, including secretary for war and the colonies (1809–1812). He inherited his father's peerage in 1808, becoming the Second Earl of Liverpool.

Liverpool became the prime minister following the assassination of Spencer Perceval (11 May 1812). Among his first acts was to orchestrate the revocation of the **orders in council** (23 June) limiting international trade, which had been a prime reason for the **American declaration of war** (18 June). After allowing time for President **James Madison** and his cabinet to assess their position during the **Prevost–Dearborn Armistice** (August 1812), Liverpool moved to frame the **British proclamation of war** (9 January 1813). From that date, the British escalated their commitment to fight the Americans, although the **Napoleonic Wars** (1803–1815) and all their international and domestic implications dominated Liverpool's attention. It

was the fragility of the peace that followed **Napoleon's** abdication and financial pressures and protests from merchants that prompted him to direct the peace commissioners to conclude the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Liverpool remained the prime minister until he retired in 1827.

LOCKYER, NICHOLAS (1782–1847). Born into a family with **RN** connections, Lockyer's name appeared on ships books from 1790, although he first went to sea as a **master's mate** in 1799. He saw nearly continuous service afloat and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1803 and **commander** in 1806. He took command of HM Sloop *Sophie* in 1809 and in that **brig-sloop** off **Halifax** late in 1812. He spent most of the next year on **blockade** off the **Chesapeake Bay**; he participated in some raids in the bay during the autumn.

In the summer of 1814, the *Sophie* was part of the **squadron** under Captain **William Percy** that worked in conjunction with Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** at Pensacola on the Gulf of Mexico coast. In September, Percy and Nicholls sent Lockyer to meet with **Jean Lafitte** at **Barataria** to solicit his help against the Americans. Although Lockyer offered a bounty of \$30,000, Lafitte hesitated and later joined the Americans.

The *Sophie* was with Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** when he approached **New Orleans** on 12 December 1814. The next day, he was given command of a flotilla of ships that attacked and captured the **USN gunboat** flotilla under Lieutenant **Thomas Jones** in the **battle of Lake Borgne** (14 December). During this action, Lockyer was severely wounded while boarding Jones's gunboat. Cochrane praised Lockyer highly for his command of such a difficult pursuit and capture, and this resulted in his promotion to **post captain** in March 1815 and the awarding of a **CB** in June.

Lockyer continued in the navy with **commissions** afloat but did not reach flag rank. He died at Malta while in command of HMS *Albion*.

LONG GUN. Commonly known as a “**cannon**,” a long gun was a piece of **artillery** with a long, smooth-bore barrel, its caliber determined by the weight of shot it fired. It was usually mounted on a **garrison carriage** in a fort **bastion** or external **battery** or on board

a warship. These guns were extremely heavy and required a large crew to serve them, but they were more effective at long ranges than **carronades**.

LONG POINT, UC. This 20-mile-long sandy peninsula projects into **Lake Erie** from a point about 80 miles west of **Fort Erie** and 20 miles west of **Port Dover**. It provided sheltered anchorages for vessels.

LONGWOODS, UC, SKIRMISH AT THE (4 March 1814). During the winter of 1813–1814, the Americans sent detachments from **Detroit** into the **Thames River** valley of **UC** for observation and foraging. This led to a number of minor clashes with the British, one of which was the **skirmish at McCrea's Farm** (15 December 1813). Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Butler, commanding at Detroit, decided the following February to send a mounted expedition against British posts at **Delaware** or **Port Talbot**. Commanded by Captain **Andrew Holmes**, it consisted of about 100 **regulars** from the **Twenty-fourth**, **Twenty-sixth**, **Twenty-seventh**, and **Twenty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** with two 6-pdr **field guns**, later joined by about 80 **Michigan Militia** and Michigan **Rangers**. Around 21 February, Holmes set out with his regulars along the lakeshore but found travel so difficult that he abandoned his guns and decided to head across country to Delaware. Joined by the Michigan men, he arrived at the **Thames River** and turned upstream, passing through a vast forest known as the Longwoods.

On 3 March, Holmes heard that a British detachment was marching from Delaware (15 miles distant) to meet him. He rode back four miles to a creek and chose a position on a hill on its western bank to meet the enemy. He built a three-sided **breastwork** out of felled trees and covered the hill with brush to form an **abatis**; this position became known as "Battle Hill." Many of his men were ill and dispirited, and at least 15 of them had left.

Captain Alexander Stewart commanded the British post at **Delaware**. On 3 March, he was in the process of planning an expedition of regulars, **militia**, and native warriors to the mouth of the Thames River when he heard about Holmes's party. While he finished up his planning, he sent Captain **James Basden** forward at the head of the

light companies of the **1/1st** and **2/89th Regiments of Foot** (numbering about 150 effectives), about 50 of the **Loyal Kent Volunteers (Kent County Militia)** and **Caldwell's Rangers**, and 40 **Potawatomis** and **Wyandots**.

Early on 4 March, some of the British scouts, probably Caldwell's Rangers, appeared across the creek valley and fired on the Americans briefly. Holmes's scouts later told him the British had retreated in a panic, and Holmes made chase. When he discovered that a larger detachment was marching toward him, Holmes returned quickly to his breastwork and prepared to fight.

Stewart approached the American position late in the afternoon. He sent the Kent Volunteers and the Rangers to circle around the American right flank. He ordered the warriors to cover his own right flank and sent the regulars to march down to the creek, cross a bridge, and then attack the front of the American position. The firing began around 5:00 P.M. with the Americans inflicting early casualties on the approaching light companies. This turned into a slaughter as the British crossed the bridge and attempted to charge up the snowy slope to the breastwork. Unable to keep their footing, the British were so badly mauled that Basden gave up the frontal assault and attempted to attack Holmes's left flank. Here the Americans along that side of the breastwork were ready and inflicted more casualties, including Basden himself; command devolved on Ensign Francis Miles. The Volunteers and Rangers had taken casualties as well, and when Stewart arrived at the scene, he ordered a retreat, the action having lasted an hour and a half. The next day, the Americans headed back to Detroit, triumphant.

The British suffered 14 killed, 50 wounded, and at least two taken prisoner. Holmes reported seven casualties in all. It was a remarkable victory for his men and him for which he was **brevetted** to the rank of **major**. In a letter to Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**, **Sir George Prevost** criticized Basden's troop deployment.

LOOPHOLE. This was a small hole in the wall of a building or **fort** through which soldiers could fire their **muskets**.

LORD BERESFORD (RN). See *PRINCE REGENT* (1812).

LORD MELVILLE (RN). This vessel was part of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** and participated in numer-

ous actions in 1813 and 1814. Renamed HM Sloop *Star* in 1814, it was laid up in 1817 and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 14-gun **brig**. Launch: 1813, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) two 18-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 71' 7" gd × 24' 8" × 8' dh, 186 tons. Crew: 98.

LORD NELSON. See *SCOURGE* (USN).

LOUISIANA. Louisiana became a state on 30 April 1812 with its capital at **New Orleans**. In 1810, its population was about 77,000. During the war years, its governor were **Benjamin Howard** (**Republican**, 1810–1812) and William C. Claiborne (**Republican**, 1812–1816).

LOUISIANA (USN). The **USN** bought this vessel in 1812 from a **New York City** owner. Critics considered it unseaworthy and too rotten to carry guns suitable to its size, and because of shortages in crews caused by disease and recruitment problems, it saw little service. Nevertheless, its maneuverability and guns came into significant use before and during the British **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December 1814).

Type: 22-gun **sloop**. Launch: ? as **merchantman** *Remittance*. Actual armament: (1814) six 12-pdr lg, 10 9-pdr lg. Dimensions: 99' 6" gd × 24' × 14' dh, 350 tons. Crew: 136.

LOUISIANA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1807, there were 2,540 officers and men in the **standing militia**. Secretary of War **William Eustis** did not issue an order for a detachment of Louisiana **militia** in May 1812 as he did with the other states. In 1812, there were two detached **regiments** of three **companies** each in arms. In the federal government's call for militia mobilization in July 1814, the state's quota was 1,000. By 1814, the detached militia was reorganized into a **battalion** of well-equipped "uniform companies," plus the Orleans Rifle Company and the Battalion of Free Men of Color. They played a critical role in Major General **Andrew Jackson**'s defense of **New Orleans**, and various parts of the militia were present during the **battle at Villeré's plantation** (23 December 1814), the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December

1814), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January 1815).

Prominent officers in the militia included Governor William Claiborne, Paul Arnaud, Pierre Lacoste, David Morgan, and Jean Baptiste Pauche.

LOWER CANADA. Covering the southern portion of what is the modern-day province of Quebec, LC had a population of about 335,000 in 1814, most of which were French Canadians. Its capital was at **Quebec**, and **Sir George Prevost**, among his many other tasks, was its **lieutenant governor**. Straddling the **St. Lawrence River** as it did, the province was the entrance to the interior of Canada and vital to its survival. LC was susceptible to infiltration along the traditional invasion routes of the St. Lawrence River and the **Richelieu River**.

LOWER CANADA MILITIA. There was a militia system during the French regime that the British loosely adapted to their use after the **Seven Years' War** (1756–1763). In 1793, it was formally organized by an act in the provincial legislature that was updated and revised periodically and closely resembled other **sedentary militia** in UC and the individual states and territories. A detachment system was put into effect before and during the war, the most significant elements being the use of **Select Embodied Militia**, the **Frontier Light Infantry**, and the **Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers**, who operated in conjunction with elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**.

Elements of the sedentary militia were present during the following: 1813, "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August), **Odelltown** (20 September), **Missisquoi Bay** (12 October), and **Chateauguay** (26 October); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February), **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

LUMLEY, JOHN RICHARD (?–1821). Lumley is known to have passed his **RN lieutenantcy** exam in 1801 and received a **commission** in that rank the same year. He rose to **commander** in 1805 and **post captain** in 1808. In 1813, he commanded HMS *Narcissus* and cap-

tured the U.S. *Viper*, Lieutenant **John Henley**, on 17 January, in the Gulf of Mexico. The following summer, he was involved in minor actions in **Chesapeake Bay**. By late 1814, Lumley commanded HMS *Pomone* in the **squadron** of Captain **John Hayes**, HMS *Majestic*, which was **blockading** American ships at **New York City**. The squadron intercepted and captured the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, on 15 January 1815 as it was trying to escape from **New York City**. Lumley was commanding HMS *Topaze* on the East India station when he died.

LUNDY'S LANE, BATTLE OF (25 July 1814). Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** reached **York, UC**, from **Kingston** on 22 July and learned the most recent information about Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814). Drummond then ordered elements of the British Right Division under Major General **Phineas Riall** into motion for a series of minor operations at **Niagara** that he intended to culminate with a full attack on Brown's army, the Left Division of the Ninth **Military District**.

Early on 25 July, British **units** began to gather at the crossroads of Portage Road (which connected **Queenston** to **Chippawa** and roughly paralleled the **Niagara River**) and Lundy's Lane, about a mile west of the falls of Niagara. (Just above the falls was a hamlet by some mills called Bridgewater, and this led to the affair being named the **battle of Bridgewater**.) Lundy's Lane ran up a ridge, forming a good defensive position overlooking cleared land extending 600 or so yards to the south. Riall held command there late in the afternoon, and when he heard that Brown's whole army was advancing from Chippawa, he ordered a withdrawal to Queenston, but his march was soon stopped by Drummond (who had landed at Niagara that morning), and the British returned to their position on Lundy's Lane.

Drummond's initial force on Lundy's Lane consisted of about 2,200 men, with the **2/89th Regiment of Foot** in the center of his line, flanked to the left by elements of the **1/41st** and **1/8th Regiments of Foot**, and the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia**. To his right were the **1/1st Regiment of Foot** and the **Glengarry Light Infantry**. He had detachments of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with five guns, elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**,

the **Rocket Corps** with **Congreve rockets**, troops of **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons** and **Niagara Provincial Light Dragoons**, militia from **Lincoln** and **York Counties**, and about 50 **Grand River Six Nations** warriors under **John Norton**. There were, as well, an uncounted number of "**Western Indians**" present.

It was not Brown's full 5,000-man army that marched into view shortly after 7:00 P.M. but rather Brigadier General **Winfield Scott's** First Brigade, about 1,200 strong. With orders from Brown, Scott had been marching toward Queenston when skirmishing and reports led to the discovery of Drummond's army. Sending word to Brown at Chippawa, Scott ordered the **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** into the woods to the right of Portage Road while he led the **Ninth, Eleventh, and Twenty-second U.S. Regiments of Infantry** onto the field at the base of the hill and deployed in line. Captain **Nathan Towson** with a **Corps of Artillery** battery of two 6-pdr **field guns** and a **howitzer** supported the **infantry**, but because of the elevation of the British position it had little affect. A troop of **U.S. Light Dragoons**, with a number of **New York Militia** dragoons attached, stood ready for service as required. Scott advanced to within only 500 yards of Lundy's Lane, where his infantry wasted volley after volley over an impossible range. Meanwhile, the two British 24-pdrs and two 6-pdrs tore Scott's three units to shreds, which took 60 percent casualties; why he allowed them to suffer in this way was never answered adequately. The **Twenty-fifth**, led by Major **Thomas Jesup**, advanced through the woods, engaged, and pushed in Drummond's left flank in a vicious firefight. In the falling darkness and amid the confusion of friend and foe, Riall, wounded and under escort, was captured by Jesup's men, as were more than 100 other British in the next short while.

About this time, Drummond was reinforced by nearly 1,800 men under Colonel **Hercules Scott**, who had made a forced march from **Twelve Mile Creek** that day. The regulars numbered about 1,500 from the **1/1st, 1/8th, 103rd, and 104th Regiments of Foot** and the Royal Artillery (three 6-pdrs), and there were about 250 militia from **Norfolk, Essex, and Middlesex Counties** and **Caldwell's Rangers**.

Brown arrived on the battlefield about 8:45 P.M. at the head of 1,900 men. These included two more batteries of artillery and Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley's** Second Brigade, which formed in

front of the devastated First Brigade. Realizing that capturing the British artillery was a key to success, Brown gave that task to the **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry** under Lieutenant Colonel **James Miller**, while the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** (which had lately joined Ripley's brigade) attacked the British right and the **Twenty-third** moved up by Jesup's Twenty-fifth; a company each of the **Seventeenth** and **Nineteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** was also in this formation. "I'll try, Sir!" was Miller's answer to Brown, and he succeeded after a brief but deadly fight in taking the guns, which Drummond had failed to protect in the dark with **skirmishers**. The British tried three times to regain the guns but failed after some vicious volleys during which Drummond was seriously wounded. The British fell back to regroup.

Action began again around 9:45 as Drummond led his line up the eastern slope of the ridge to recapture his guns. Brown had been reinforced by about 300 men under Brigadier General **Peter Porter** (New York and **Pennsylvania Militia**, the **Canadian Volunteers**, and probably some **Stockbridge** warriors). Three times the British tried to regain the hill and failed. The fighting was at close quarters and horrendous. Scott reappeared with the remains of his brigade and led it, incomprehensibly, between both forces, where it suffered more casualties. Scott was badly wounded, as was Brown, and command devolved on Ripley. Unable to recapture his guns, Drummond withdrew his men to the east, and the battle ended.

In the dark and the postbattle chaos, the Americans withdrew toward Chippawa, failing to bring off the British guns, except for one brass 6-pdr. The British reclaimed the hill and the remaining guns the next day and buried or burned the dead. Brown ordered Ripley to renew the battle, but he lacked the will to do it, and so did most of the army. The Americans never advanced in force north of Lundy's Lane again. Drummond reported 84 killed, 559 wounded, and 193 missing, while Brown's tally was 173 killed, 571 wounded, and 117 missing.

LYNNHAVEN BAY, VIRGINIA. Located five miles west of Cape Henry, **Virginia**, the southern lip of **Chesapeake Bay**, this sheltered body of water provided a safe anchorage for vessels and was used by the **RN** during its **blockades**.

LYONS CREEK, SKIRMISH AT. *See* COOK'S MILLS, SKIRMISH AT (19 October 1814).

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MACDONELL, GEORGE RICHARD JOHN “RED GEORGE” (1780?–1870). Born at St. John's, **Newfoundland**, Macdonell entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the 55th Regiment of Foot in 1796; his nickname was given because of his red hair. Having transferred to the **8th Regiment of Foot** and on post in **UC**, Macdonell was made, by **brevet**, the **major** in command of the newly formed **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment** in February 1812. He led a **company** of the **regiment** at the **attack on French Mills, New York** (23 November 1812).

He was breveted to **lieutenant colonel** on 8 February 1813, and, with some of the Glengarries and other **regulars** and **militia**, Macdonell led the successful **attack on Ogdensburg** (22 February 1813), where he was wounded. He was present during the **battle of the Chateauguay** (26 October 1813), leading the reserve force in support of Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry**. During 1814, he was the **inspecting field officer** for militia in **BNA** and was in command of the district around **Cornwall** and the convoy of supplies on the **St. Lawrence River**.

Following the war, Macdonell became embroiled in a bitter attempt to gain the prestige and recognition that he felt was owed to him for his war services and for a scheme he had for creating an alternative water route like the one that became the Rideau Canal. He was made a **CB** in 1817, was formally promoted to lieutenant colonel in 1833, but retired from the army shortly afterward. He died in England.

MACDONOUGH, THOMAS (1783–1825). A resident of **Delaware**, Macdonough joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800 and saw action during the **Quasi War with France** (1798–1800). He served during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was part of Lieutenant **Stephen Decatur**'s successful mission to destroy the captured **USS Philadelphia** in February 1804.

Macdonough was promoted to **lieutenant** on 6 February 1807 and commanded a flotilla of **gunboats** at **Portland, Maine**, when he received orders from Navy Secretary **Paul Hamilton** on 4 October 1812 to take command on **Lake Champlain**. He reached **Burlington, Vermont**, four days later and began the difficult task of forming a serviceable **squadron** out of two decrepit gunboats and three converted **merchantmen**. On 31 October, he made his first cruise and spent the rest of the fall transporting troops across the lake and patrolling its northern reaches before he laid up the vessels for winter at Shelburne, Vermont.

Macdonough's **squadron** held control on the lake into 1813 until the **capture of the *Eagle* (1812) and *Growler* (1812)** (3 June) in the **Richelieu River**, after which he struggled to man other merchantmen and maintain a patrol on the lake and to support army operations. In July, he was promoted to **master commandant**.

Macdonough was able to convince Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** to provide him with the materiel and manpower to build stronger vessels during the winter of 1813–1814 at **Vergennes, Vermont**. He was not able to launch his new vessels in time to meet the British **squadron** when it sailed in the spring, but his defenses kept his squadron safe during the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May). Assisted by the energy and skill of the shipbuilders Noah and Adam Brown, Macdonough sailed late in May to interfere with **smuggling on Lake Champlain** and support the army.

In anticipation of the pending attack by the British squadron, Macdonough wisely anchored his strongest vessels in Plattsburgh Bay and earned a great victory over Captain **George Downie's squadron** at the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814). Like Captain **Oliver Perry**, Macdonough escaped the battle more or less unharmed and was widely proclaimed as a great naval hero. He was promoted to **captain**, effective 11 September, while Congress voted a gold coin to be struck in his honor, and cities, states, and private societies awarded him numerous gifts.

Following the war, Macdonough continued to serve at stations on shore and afloat, but his health was ruined by tuberculosis, which led to his death during a voyage home from the Mediterranean Sea. He was buried next to his wife at Middleton, **Connecticut**.

MACDONOUGH'S SQUADRON. When the war started, the USN contingent on **Lake Champlain** consisted of two leaky **gunboats** at Basin Harbor, 20 miles south of **Burlington, Vermont**, under the command of Lieutenant **Sidney Smith**. These were repaired and used for light transport duty. Late in September 1812, Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** ordered Lieutenant **Thomas Macdonough** to take command, and he arrived on the lake during the second week of October with a small party of seamen. He converted three **merchant-men sloops**, the *Eagle* (1812), *Growler* (1812) and *President* (1812), for war service but saw no action before winter ended navigation, and he took post at Shelburne Bay, five miles south of Burlington.

In the spring of 1813, Macdonough attempted to interrupt the pervasive **smuggling on Lake Champlain**. On one patrol, Lieutenant Smith incautiously sailed down the **Richelieu River** to observe the British post at **Isle-aux-Noix**, resulting in the **capture of the *Eagle* and *Growler*** (3 June). This gave control of the lake to the British, who quickly retaliated with "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August). Macdonough had added four private sloops to his force, but only one of them, the *Commodore Preble*, remained in his line; the others were the *Frances*, *Montgomery*, and *Wasp*. He sailed on 6 September and took up a position at and north of **Plattsburgh, New York**, sighting the British **squadron** several times without engaging; Macdonough believed this gave him control of the lake. Late in the year, he received permission to build 15 **galleys**, and he moved his force up **Otter Creek** to **Vergennes, Vermont**, where the work was to be done during the winter.

In February 1814, master shipwright Noah Brown began work on the galleys and eventually built six of them, the first being launched in April. Meanwhile, Jones had given Macdonough permission to build a vessel to counter the one (HM Sloop *Linnet*) known to be under construction at Isle-aux-Noix. Laid down on 7 March, the USS *Saratoga*—originally named the *Jones* (1814A)—was built by Brown and launched on 11 April. Macdonough's shipyard was also converting the hull of a proposed steamboat for war use that was launched on 12 May as the U.S. Schooner *Ticonderoga*. Neither vessel was ready for action when the British squadron under Commander **Daniel Pring** appeared on 14 May, leading to the **skirmish at Otter Creek** and Pring's effort to retard Macdonough's progress

by blocking the creek with sunken vessels. On 26 May, Macdonough sailed with his new vessels, galleys, and sloops to Plattsburgh and two weeks later appeared off the Richelieu River, prompting British vessels to withdraw. Macdonough heard that the British were building a heavily gunned **ship** and asked Jones for permission to build another warship. Jones was opposed to this, but President **James Madison** overruled him and ordered the construction.

Noah Brown's brother Adam supervised the work, and in less than 20 days his men built the U.S. Sloop **Eagle**—named at first the **Surprise (1814A)** by Master Commandant Robert Henley—at Vergennes and launched it. Henley joined Macdonough's squadron on 27 August.

When **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) began at the end of August, Macdonough withdrew to Plattsburgh, where he finalized his crews and anchored his squadron in the bay, ready to face the British squadron. His line consisted of the *Eagle*, *Saratoga*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Preble* his six galleys and four gunboats; all the sloops were used elsewhere. The squadron carried 49 **long guns**, mainly 12-, 18-, and 24-pdrs, and 39 **carronades**, most of them 32-pdrs. The majority of the approximately 860 men in the squadron were USN personnel, the others being drawn from the **infantry units** under Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb** at Plattsburgh.

The squadron was badly shattered in the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September), and several weeks after the action, they and the **prized** British vessels sailed to an anchorage at Whitehall, New York, near the southern limit of the lake. They were laid up and eventually decayed.

MACEDONIAN (RN). Commanded by Captain **James Carden**, this **frigate** met with the USS *United States*, Commodore **Stephen Decatur**, on 25 October 1812, 500 miles west of the Canary Islands. Decatur captured the *Macedonian* and brought it as a **prize** to the Thames River at New London, **Connecticut**, where it was purchased into the **USN** but remained **blockaded** by British warships until the end of the war. It was broken up at **Norfolk, Virginia**, after 1835 while a new *Macedonian* was built to match the old **ship**.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1810, Woolwich, UK. Actual ar-

mament: (1812) 28 18-pdr lg, two 12-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde, one 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 154' 6" ld × 39' 2" × 13' 6" dh, 1,080 tons. Crew: 301

MACHIAS, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

MACKINAC. *See* MICHILIMACKINAC.

MACKINAC, FORT. Originally built on **Michilimackinac Island** by the British in the early 1780s, this **fort** was improved by the Americans after they took control of the island by virtue of the **Jay Treaty** in 1796. In 1812, it was a small triangular-shaped position surrounded by walls of stone and wooden **palisades** and containing about a dozen buildings. It stood on a bluff above the village of Michilimackinac. This was a significant transshipment point for the **fur trade**, and therefore whoever controlled the post had influence over the aboriginal nations involved in the trade and, potentially, their support in time of war. The bloodless but significant **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812) was effected by the British, who often referred to the fort as **Fort Michilimackinac**. The American **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August 1814) failed to recapture the island.

MACOMB, ALEXANDER (1782–1841). Macomb was born at **Detroit** but raised in **New York City**. He joined the **U.S. Army** in 1799 as a **cornet** in the **dragoons**. He left the army in 1800 but was **commissioned** again in 1801 as a **lieutenant** in the **Second U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and secretary to Brigadier General **James Wilkinson**. He attended **West Point** from 1802 to 1805, when he became a **captain** in the **Corps of Engineers**, eventually rising to **lieutenant colonel**.

In July 1812, Macomb was appointed the **colonel** of the newly created **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery**. He marched his **unit** to **Sackets Harbor** that November and was military commander through the winter. Macomb and the Third formed part of the reserve in the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813) and were present through most of the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October) before

going back to Sackets in October. Here he was given command of the reserve, or **elite, brigade** during **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). His brigade was landed in UC on 7 November for the purpose of clearing the route of British defenders, and he was with Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** on 10 November at the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek**; he was not present at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

In January 1814, Macomb was promoted to **brigadier general** and sent to **Plattsburgh, New York**. He commanded a brigade of reserves during the **battle of Lacolle** (30 March 1814) but did not see action. Back at Plattsburgh, he served under Major General **George Izard**, and when Izard began his march to the **Niagara Frontier** in August, Macomb succeeded to command at the head of a motley force of **regulars** and **militia**, numbering about 3,500. He nevertheless was able to prepare Plattsburgh for **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and successfully defended it while the naval **battle of Plattsburg** (11 September) was fought. In recognition of his service at Plattsburgh, Macomb was **breveted to major general**, effective 11 September, and Congress voted a gold coin be struck in his honor.

Following the war, he remained in the army, eventually rising to be the senior commanding officer in 1828, a position he held until his death.

MACON'S BILL NO. 2 (1 May 1810). Named for Nathaniel Macon, chairman of the committee on foreign relations in the **U.S. Congress** in 1810, this law replaced the **Nonintercourse Act** of 1809 by allowing trade between the **United States** and Britain and France. It prohibited their warships from entering American waters, however, and gave the president permission to invoke nonimportation on one of the belligerents if the other agreed to drop its trade restrictions (i.e., Britain's **orders in council** and France's **Berlin and Milan Decrees**). When Napoleon hinted he would do this in the summer of 1810, President **James Madison** imposed the Nonintercourse Act on Britain, effective 2 February 1811.

MAD STURGEON (Potawatomi). Also known as Senachewin, this **Potawatomi** chief co-led the attack on the American force leaving **Fort Dearborn** on 15 August 1812.

MADISON (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** squadron on **Lake Ontario**, this **ship** was laid up in 1815 and sold as a **merchantman** in 1825.

Type: 20-gun **corvette**. Launch: 1812, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: (1813) four 12-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 120' ld × 32' 6" × 11' 6" dh, 580 tons. Crew: 274.

MADISON, FORT. This was the first **U.S. Army** post on the upper Mississippi River and was constructed in 1808 about 220 miles southwest of Chicago at modern day Fort Madison, Iowa. It was a small, **stockaded** work with **blockhouses** designed to protect American fur trading interests in the region and was named to honor President **James Madison**. It was successfully defended during an attack by native warriors under **Black Hawk** between 5 and 8 September 1812, but the army burned and abandoned it in September 1813.

MADISON, FORT, INVESTMENT OF (5–8 September 1812).

Warriors of the **Sauk** and **Fox** nations under **Black Hawk** attacked **Fort Madison** on 5 September 1812, hoping to follow up on British victories at **Michilimackinac** and **Detroit**. Lieutenant **Thomas Hamilton** commanded a small detachment of the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** that successfully defended the fort. After burning outlying buildings, **Black Hawk's** warriors withdrew on 8 September, having run low on ammunition.

MADISON, JAMES (1751–1836). Madison was a Virginian by birth who received an extensive formal education. He was a fervent patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), although his tendency to poor health prohibited active military service. He became involved in **Virginia** politics and was a close colleague of **Thomas Jefferson**. He worked industriously to iron out some of the numerous subsequent problems among the states and was a principal author of the U.S. Constitution. Through the 1790s and the first decade of the 19th century, he was actively involved in federal affairs, holding numerous posts.

Madison was elected president late in 1808 and took over from Jefferson the following March, inheriting the difficult issues Jefferson's administration had with Britain and with which he was per-

fectly familiar, having been secretary of state. His efforts to find diplomatic solutions by such means as the **Erskine Agreement** (April–May 1809) and invocation of the **Nonintercourse Act** (March 1811) were unsuccessful. Such measures raised the scorn of the **Federalists** and frustrated the members of his own **Republican Party** (the “**War Hawks**”) who wanted more aggressive policies. In addition, Madison did not cut a commanding figure, appearing greatly fatigued by his burdens and incapable of exerting control of his cabinet or his party, leading to internal disputes and indecisive policies.

When Madison advised Congress to outfit the nation for war, he learned how difficult it was to actually do this in light of how his and Jefferson’s administrations had reduced the armed forces to virtually subsistence levels. He also faced the opposition posed by the Federalists and the Republican factions and ended up with a set of largely impractical war preparations.

Madison signed the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812) apparently without realizing that the army lacked the men, materiel, and leaders necessary to conquer Canada, let alone attack it on three fronts, as eventually occurred in the 1812 campaign. He tried to make the best of the failures of the year by suggesting that they had been learning experiences, and then he cleaned house by replacing Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** with **William Jones** and Secretary of War **William Eustis** with **John Armstrong**. He just barely managed to win reelection after a faction of his own party in **New York** actively worked against him.

In 1813, the army did grow stronger and had some early successes, and Jones proved to be a competent navy secretary. But political infighting prompted Secretary of the Treasury **Albert Gallatin**, one of Madison’s key advisers, to leave the country as a peace commissioner; Jones added finances to his responsibilities. In addition, Armstrong’s strategic planning was muddled and his manner fractious, drawing the constant criticism of Secretary of State **James Monroe**. Madison suffered from ill health through the middle part of the year, which ended with Master Commandant **Oliver Perry**’s astounding success on **Lake Erie** (September) and Major General **James Wilkinson**’s dismal failure on the **St. Lawrence River** (November).

Hoping for the revived peace negotiations to achieve success in the new year and slow to commit the funds necessary to improve such

elements as the navy on the northern border, Madison and his cabinet did not finalize campaign plans for 1814 until the first week of June. They were as unfocused as the previous plans and produced no benefits. The president showed that he had not learned much about prosecuting a war and that he lacked the dynamic leadership necessary to achieve the lofty goals he had so naively announced.

In 1814, the Americans reacted mainly to the escalation of the British war effort. This led to the greatest embarrassment of the age when an expedition led by Major General **Robert Ross** and Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** burned **Washington** in August, plunging Madison's administration into chaos. It was saved only by the defense of **Baltimore** in September, masterminded by Major General **Samuel Smith**, one of Madison's Republican critics. At the same time, Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough** and Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb** stopped Sir **George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) dead in its tracks at **Plattsburgh, New York**. And in another demonstration of remarkable leadership, Major General **Andrew Jackson** did not let the **British army** and navy under Major General Sir **Edward Pakenham** and Vice Admiral Sir **Alexander Cochrane** get closer than five miles to **New Orleans**.

These American victories added to other motivations and led the British to eventually sign the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814), and they allowed Madison to end his essentially ineffectual war program on a positive note.

Madison passed the presidency to Monroe in 1817 and, like his mentor Jefferson, spent the rest of his days in the role of elder statesman on his plantation in Virginia.

MAGAZINE. Gunpowder was stored in protected buildings known as magazines. A traveling magazine was a heavy chest containing gunpowder that was carried onto the field.

MAGNET (RN). *See GOVERNOR SIMCOE.*

MAGNET, DESTRUCTION OF THE (5 August 1814). While he kept the larger **ships** in his **squadron** at **Kingston** during the summer of 1814, Commodore **Sir James Yeo** deployed four of his smaller

vessels to carry men and materiel between **York** and **Niagara, UC**. HM Brig **Magnet**, Lieutenant George Hawkesworth, was returning from York around noon on 5 August when Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** arrived from **Sackets Harbor** and cut him off from a safe anchorage in the **Niagara River**. To avoid capture, Hawkesworth ran the vessel on shore at 10 Mile Creek and blew it up. This raised the ire of Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** and Yeo. To avoid a **court-martial**, Hawkesworth deserted to the Americans at Sackets.

MAGUAGA, MICHIGAN, SKIRMISH AT (9 August 1812). The **Wyandot** village of Maguaga, modern-day Wyandotte, **Michigan**, was located 14 miles south of **Detroit**. Brigadier General **William Hull** sent Lieutenant Colonel **James Miller** with 600 **Ohio** and **Michigan Militia** and **regulars** of the **First** and **Fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** and the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery** to re-open the supply road to **Frenchtown, Michigan**. About 300 native warriors under **Tecumseh** and 150 **regulars** and a few **militia** under Captain **Adam Muir, 1/41st Regiment of Foot**, ambushed Miller's detachment in the afternoon of 9 August near Maguaga. In a wide-ranging action of nearly three hours, the British killed about 25 of Miller's men, wounding 65, and suffered about 30 casualties, some mistakenly inflicted by their own troops. Muir and Tecumseh retreated in the face of Miller's stalwart advance, and Miller then held his ground for three days until Hull recalled him to Detroit, accepting that his supply line was blocked by the British. Miller was credited with having accomplished the first American battlefield victory in the war.

MAIN POC (Potawatomi) (ca. 1765–1816). His name meant “crippled hand,” but despite this disability, Main Poc (Main Poche) became a war chief for the **Potawatomis** living along the Kankakee River in **Illinois Territory**. He was a wabeno, a sorcerer with apparently supernatural propensities, one being his self-professed ability to see bullets in flight and evade them. Main Poc was notorious for his intemperance and excess but also admired for his bravery and leadership, and he had great influence on his people and others. From the 1790s, he was hostile to American expansion plans, and, rejecting

all government attempts to win his alliance, Main Poc joined with **Tecumseh** and the British and worked to bring other nations to their side.

In 1812, Main Poc and his warriors were at **Amherstburg, UC**, and he participated in the **skirmish at Maguaga** (9 August), and, temporarily bereft of his magical powers, he was wounded in a skirmish near **Fort Amherstburg**. He was also present at the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August). Disenchanted with Major General **Henry Procter**, he quit the British force when Procter announced his intention on 18 September to abandon **Fort Amherstburg** and retreat to **Burlington Heights**. Main Poc then led large numbers of **Chippewas, Foxes, Ottawas, Potawatomis**, and **Sacs** out of UC to their homelands. Following the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813), he agreed to an armistice with Major General **William Harrison** but never lost his hatred of the Americans.

MAINE. In 1812, this tract of land was part of **Massachusetts**. Its population was about 229,000, and it did not become a state until 1820. A small number of volunteer **militia** served on **Lake Champlain** in the spring of 1813 and were taken in the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler (1812)** on 3 June. **Twelve-month volunteers** from Maine participated in the **battle of Chateaugay** (26 October 1813).

MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815). From the early 1600s the French and British disputed claims to the land between the St. Croix River (**Maine's** border with **New Brunswick**) and the **Penobscot River** (100 miles west of New Brunswick). British interest in the area continued after the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), when the **United States** took possession. As part of its escalation of the war in 1814, the British government ordered its commanders to capture and occupy this part of Maine.

Lieutenant Governor **Sir John Sherbrooke**, lieutenant governor of **Nova Scotia**, and Rear Admiral **Edward Griffith** held command of the military and naval forces at **Halifax**. They knew from results of raids in June at villages just west of Penobscot Bay that resistance would be light.

In July, they sent Lieutenant Colonel **Andrew Pilkington** in HM

Sloop *Martin* with a detachment of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** to rendezvous with Captain **Sir Thomas Hardy** in HMS *Ramillies*, with several other warships, and two transports carrying the **102nd Regiment of Foot**. This force arrived off **Eastport, Maine**, on **Moose Island** in Passamaquoddy Bay at the mouth of the St. Croix River with orders to capture and occupy the islands there. This was accomplished on 11 July, when Major Perley Putnam, commanding Fort Sullivan with 80 men of the **Fortieth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, surrendered without a fight; there were 250 **Massachusetts Militia** in the vicinity who went on **parole**. The British left a force to secure and improve Fort Sullivan and its environs.

Sherbrooke and Griffith made plans to extend their occupation along the Maine coastline, intending to take **Machias** next, but word that the USS *Adams*, Captain **Charles Morris**, had sought refuge in the Penobscot River caused them to make this area the focus of a larger expedition. Several **regiments** arrived from Europe during this time, of which the **29th**, **7/60th**, **1/62nd**, and **98th Regiments of Foot**, in addition to Royal Artillery, were embarked under Major General **Gerard Gosselin** in a **fleet** that comprised about 20 warships and transports. On 1 September, they arrived off **Castine** (on the eastern shore of Penobscot Bay), where the bay's main **fortifications** were: Fort Castine, a small **battery** overlooking the bay, and Fort George behind the town. Lieutenant Andrew Lewis, commanding a small body of the Fortieth Infantry, refused the offer to surrender, fired on a reconnoitering vessel, and then **spiked** his guns, blew up his **magazine**, and fled with a pair of **field guns**, followed by the **militia**, after which Castine was occupied without opposition. Sherbrooke sent the 29th Foot by water to capture and occupy Belfast on the west shore of the bay, and this was done without resistance.

Lieutenant Colonel Henry John and Captain **Robert Barrie** now headed upriver in search of the *Adams* with a force of about 700 men—selected **companies** of the four **regiments** with **artillery**, **Royal Marines**, and **RN** personnel. Forced to engage only one small party of militia, the British came within striking distance of the *Adams* late on 2 September. Morris had moored his **ship** at **Hampden**, 25 miles above Castine, and removed its guns to form two batteries. Major General John Blake called out a detachment of his **division** of the Massachusetts Militia, and about 600 men mustered

at Hampden. A thick fog enveloped the area on 3 September, and John advanced slowly on the American line, which was arranged along a ridge and down to the river. The American batteries and **musketry** opened fire around 8:00 A.M. on John's **skirmishers**, soon prompting him to advance in force at the same time as Barrie advanced with his armed boats, at least one of which was firing **Congreve rockets**, manned by the RN. In short time, the militia broke, and Morris retreated with his men after spiking his guns and setting the *Adams* ablaze. The British lost one killed, eight wounded, and one missing; John reported taking 121 prisoners and estimated dozens of American casualties.

John and Barrie followed up their success by proceeding by land and water to Bangor, where a delegation met them to negotiate a surrender of the town. The British spent the night there, during which some seamen and soldiers ran amok, terrifying the populace. After burning several vessels and arranging for the seizure of others, they returned to Castine on 6 September via Hampden, where they burned a public building and took some **merchantmen**.

Sherbrooke then sent Pilkington with a small naval force under Captain **Hyde Parker** to seize Machias, about 25 miles west of Eastport. Elements of the 29th and 60th Foot were landed on 10 September and marched toward Fort O'Brien, near Machias. The **garrison** of about 70 of the Fortieth Infantry fled, and, with the help of Royal Marines and seamen, the fort and town were secured without casualties.

Sherbrooke and Griffith returned to Halifax on 18 September, having left Gosselin at Castine with half the original force to hold the coastline. Although an offensive was discussed in **Massachusetts** and by President **James Madison** and his cabinet, no one challenged the British authority, which quickly established itself, collecting duties at the ports and working harmoniously with the populace. It was not until 26 April 1815, after ratification of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814), that Gosselin and his force departed.

MAJESTIC (RN). Converted into a **fourth-rate** in 1813, this vessel was **commissioned** to Captain **John Hayes**, who led a **squadron** that captured the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, off

New York City on 15 January 1815. The **ship** was broken up in 1816 after becoming stranded ashore and irreparably damaged.

Type: 58-gun fourth-rate *razée*. Launch: 1785, Chatham, UK, as **third-rate**. Actual armament: (1813) 28 32-pdr lg, two 12-pdr lg, 28 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 170' 6" ld × 46' 9½" × 20' 6" dh, 1,642 tons. Crew: 495.

MAJESTIC SQUADRON VS. PRESIDENT (1800), NAVAL BATTLE OF (15 January 1815). Captain **John Hayes** commanded HMS *Majestic* and was senior officer of a **blockading squadron** off **New York City** that consisted of HMS *Endymion*, Captain **Henry Hope**; HMS *Pomone*, Captain **John Lumley**; and HMS *Tenedos*, Captain **Hyde Parker**, in January 1815, when Captain **Stephen Decatur** attempted to escape from New York City in the USS *President* (1800). Heavily burdened with supplies for a lengthy cruise in the East Indies with the U.S. Sloops *Hornet*, Master Commandant **James Biddle**, and *Peacock*, Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington** (both of which escaped the blockade several days later), the **frigate** was damaged when it ran aground shortly after sailing on 14 January. The next day, Hayes's squadron intercepted the *President* and gave chase. The *Endymion* came into range around 5:30 P.M. and opened fire on the American from astern, where Decatur could not respond as he lightened **ship** and fled. Around 6:00 P.M., Decatur turned to engage, and the two frigates cracked away at each other until the *Endymion*'s rigging was so badly torn up that it fell out of the fight.

The *President* had suffered damage as well, and when the *Pomone* and then *Tenedos* caught up to it at 11:00 P.M., they were too strong for the Americans, forcing Decatur to surrender. His casualties were 24 killed and 55 wounded, while the *Endymion* had 11 dead and 14 wounded. The British took possession of the *President* but nearly lost it two days later when a gale dismasted the ship. It was eventually taken to England.

MAJOR. See RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

MAJOR GENERAL. See RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

MALCOLM'S MILLS, SKIRMISH AT (6 November 1814). After the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813), American detachments frequently raided communities in southwestern UC, resulting in skirmishes such as those at **McCrea's Farm** (15 December 1813) and the **Longwoods** (4 March 1814). Raiding continued after Brigadier General **Duncan McArthur** took command of the **Army of the Northwest** in May 1814, following the resignation of Major General **William Harrison**.

Early in August, McArthur received permission to raise a force of 1,000 **Ohio** and **Kentucky Militia** horsemen to attack native villages near **Lake Michigan** in coordination with Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814), but the limited success of that expedition postponed the plan. Instead, McArthur received permission to send his force across southwestern UC to **Burlington Heights** in support of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara Peninsula** (July–October). McArthur assembled about 700 Kentucky and Ohio riflemen, 75 **Wyandot** warriors, 50 **Rangers**, and a few **Michigan Militia** at **Detroit**.

On 22 October, they set out from Detroit, rounded **Lake St. Clair**, crossed the **St. Clair River**, and went by a less traveled route to **Moraviantown**. They arrived there on 30 October without having been detected by British patrols. Two days were taken up with crossing the rain-swollen **Thames River** near **Delaware**, and McArthur arrived at Oxford, a village on the upper Thames, on 4 November. Word now spread quickly about the force. While the weak body of **regulars** at Burlington Heights prepared for an attack, a detachment (**militia**, a troop of the **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons**, and a few **Grand River Six Nations** warriors) under Major **Adam Muir** destroyed the ferry at the **Grand River** on the road to Burlington Heights. When McArthur arrived there on 5 November to find the Grand impossible to cross and defended by Muir's force, he headed south the next day to the village of Malcolm's Mills, 12 miles south of the Grand crossing.

Lieutenant Colonel **Henry Bostwick** had gathered about 500 militia from **Oxford County** and **Norfolk County Militia** at Malcolm's Mills. They formed on a hilltop, overlooking a stream with a large mill pond on their left. They removed the planks of the bridge across the stream, and when McArthur's horsemen rode up during the

morning of 6 November, the best they could do was exchange volleys across the water. McArthur left a body of men to continue this exchange, while he led others on foot to outflank Boswick. The warriors with McArthur revealed this maneuver with their war whoops, however, and the British, poorly armed to begin with, quickly withdrew to safety. The skirmish left two British dead and at least three wounded, whereas McArthur lost one killed and six wounded.

On 6 November, McArthur burned the local mills, then headed for **Port Talbot** and from there returned to the Thames; detachments of British **regulars** pursued him without making contact. McArthur was back at Detroit on 17 November, having succeeded in terrifying the Canadian settlers but having destroyed only five mills and seized or killed 400 head of livestock. The fact that American forces had begun to withdraw from UC at **Fort Erie** on 25 October made McArthur's raid a wasted effort.

MALDEN. *See* AMHERSTBURG.

MALDEN, FORT. *See* AMHERSTBURG, FORT.

MANCHESTER, NEW YORK. This village developed near modern-day Niagara Falls, **New York**, in conjunction with a complex of mills built at the **Niagara River** during the first decade of the 1800s. **Peter Porter** was one of the local entrepreneurs involved in the development of mills, storehouses, and a rope walk. It was attacked and burned by a British detachment under Major General **Phineas Riall** on 21 December 1813 as a follow-up to his **raid on Lewiston** two days before.

MANNERS, WILLIAM (ca. 1784–1814). The record shows that Manners was **commissioned** a **lieutenant** in the **RN** in 1806 and promoted to **commander** in February 1812. He commanded HM Sloop **Reindeer** on 28 June 1814, when it was taken in battle by the U.S. Sloop **Wasp** (1813), Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley**, in the English Channel. Manners, said to have been much admired in the service (his vessel known as “the Pride of Plymouth”), was wounded several times during the action, then killed outright by a **musket ball** to the head while leading his men in an attempt to board the *Wasp*.

MAPLES, JOHN FORDYCE (1768–1847). Maples joined the RN as a **captain's servant** in 1782 and participated in a large variety of actions, including the battles at Copenhagen (1801) and Trafalgar (1805). He became a **lieutenant** in 1794 but did not advance to the rank of **commander** until 1810. His **commission** in HM Sloop ***Pelican*** began in October 1812. The **Admiralty** advanced Maples to **post** rank after he captured the U.S. Brig ***Argus***, Lieutenant **William Allen**, in St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales early on 14 August 1813. He had one other brief command before the war ended, after which he remained in the RN, though never on active service, and lived to become a **rear admiral** in 1846.

MARINES. Warships carried detachments of soldiers outfitted as land-based **infantry**. They were not part of the armies, however, but were specially raised for sea service where they acted as guards, provided small-arms fire during naval engagements, and participated in actions on shore. *See also* ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY, ROYAL MARINES; U.S. MARINE CORPS.

MARITIME PROVINCES. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, and Newfoundland are Canada's maritime provinces.

MARLBOROUGH (RN). This **ship of the line** was the flagship through most of Admiral Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign (March–September 1813). Placed in ordinary following the war, it was broken up in 1835.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1807, Deptford, UK. Standard armament: 28 32-pdr lg, 28 18-pdr lg, eight 12-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' gd × 47' 6" × 20' 6" dh, 1,754 tons. Crew: 640.

MARTIN (RN). This vessel was on the **North America Station** throughout the war. Under Commander **Humphrey Senhouse**, the **sloop** ran aground at Cape May off the **Delaware River** on 29 July 1813, and Master Commandant **Samuel Angus** made an unsuccessful assault on it with his flotilla of 10 **gunboats**. During that summer,

it was involved in the capture of 12 vessels. The *Martin* was wrecked on the west coast of Ireland in 1817.

Type: 16-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1809, **Bermuda**. Actual armament: two 9-pdr lg, 16 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 107' gd × 29' 11" × 14' 8" dh, 399 tons. Crew: 121.

MARTIN, ASSAULT ON HM SLOOP (29 July 1813). HM Sloop *Martin*, Commander **Humphrey Senhouse**, was on **blockade** duty off the **Delaware River** when it ran aground on a shoal near Cape May on 28 July while chasing a small **merchantman**. Master Commandant **Samuel Angus** commanded the **Delaware flotilla** of eight **gunboats** and two **blockships** (the cutters *Buffalo* and *Camel*) and decided to attack the *Martin*. HMS *Junon*, Captain **James Sanders**, was in company with the *Martin* but in deep water.

Angus brought his flotilla down to anchor three-quarters of a mile inshore of the **sloop** so that it was between him and the *Junon* and opened fire with the flotilla's **long guns** (lg) just before 12:00 P.M. The *Martin*'s **carronades** were ineffective, so Senhouse moved his two 9-pdr lg so they could be used, while the *Junon*'s guns had little effect. Gunboat Number 121, Sailing Master William Sheed, could not keep its place in line because of a weak wind and a strong ebb tide drawing it away from the others. Seeing this, Sanders ordered seven boats, about 100 men, from both warships to attack the gunboat, which was captured after a brief fight; its 32-pdr lg was disabled during their approach, hampering its defense. The action had lasted nearly two hours, and Angus decided to withdraw, the carriages of some of the guns in the boats having broken down and the supply of powder (which he later claimed was inferior) running low. He made no attempt to save Sheed's gunboat, much to the dismay of the crowd of onlookers who had gathered on the nearby beach. The British scuttled the captured gunboat, which washed ashore some days later.

The Americans had none wounded in the flotilla but suffered seven wounded in the lost gunboat. Reports of the British losses varied between three and seven dead and four and 12 wounded during the boat action. The *Junon* and *Martin*, which was soon refloated, had only minor damage. Angus was criticized for his failure to destroy the sloop and protect Sheed's gunboat.

MARY HATT. *See* **RAVEN** (USN).

MARYLAND. Maryland was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Annapolis. In 1810, its population was about 381,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—six for, three against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were Robert Bowie (**Republican**, 1810–1812) and Levin Winder (**Federalist**, 1812–1816).

MARYLAND MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 32,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **Maryland Militia**. The state was divided into three **divisions**, each with four **brigades**, most of these with four **regiments** raised on a county basis; 11 separate **cavalry** regiments were formed in 1812. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, Maryland's quota was 6,000. To meet this quota, Governor Levin Winder, though an opponent to the war, obtained emergency funds to train and equip the militia in order to defend the state. He provided critical support to Major General **Samuel Smith**, who was responsible for putting the Third Division, around **Baltimore**, in the best condition possible.

Despite these efforts, the scattered companies of militia offered only brief resistance to the British during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813), which included the 1813 **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown** (6 May).

In the federal government's call for militia mobilization in July 1814, the state's quota was again 6,000. During Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814), the Maryland Militia offered limited support at the **skirmishes on St. Leonard's Creek** (8–26 June). They broke under the British advance at the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), were never mustered to defend **Washington** (24–25 August), and could do little to stop Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (August–September). They again broke during the **battle of North Point** (12 September), but the sheer weight of their numbers and their

commitment to fortifying Baltimore brought defeat to the British in their **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Among its prominent officers in the war were **Samuel Smith**, Tobias Stansbury, and **John Stricker**.

MASSACHUSETTS. Massachusetts was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Boston. In 1810, its population was about 472,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—six for, eight against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were Elbridge Gerry (**Republican**, 1810–1812) and Caleb Strong (**Federalist**, 1812–1816), an opponent to the administration of President **James Madison**. Modern-day **Maine** was part of Massachusetts at this time.

MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 71,000 officers and men in the **standing militia**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, Massachusetts's quota was 10,000. Governor Caleb Strong joined with the **Federalist** governors of **Rhode Island** and **Connecticut** to oppose the federal order. Strong was concerned chiefly over the proper use of the militia but finally allowed a small detachment to be posted under a **U.S. Army** officer in **Maine** in the autumn of 1812.

The militia saw little service through 1812 and 1813, but as the British increased their strength in 1814, there was need to activate thousands of militia for the protection of Boston and points in Maine; the state's quota in the July 1814 federal call for militia mobilization was again 10,000. Detachments of the Tenth Division were present during the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815) but did not distinguish themselves. Their commander, Major General John Blake, was lynched in effigy by citizens angered by the militia's poor showing.

MASTER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

MASTER AND COMMANDER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

MASTER COMMANDANT. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

MASTER'S MATE. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

MATCHEDASH BAY. This small inlet is located in the southeastern corner of **Georgian Bay** near modern-day Port Severn, Ontario. In 1814, U.S. government officials and military and naval officers heard rumors that the British were building large warships there, and their destruction became an objective of Captain **Arthur Sinclair's expedition on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814).

The rumors were false. After Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** was captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), only British **merchantmen** cruised the upper lakes. Commodore **Sir James Yeo** sent Lieutenant Newdigate Poyntz, a **midshipman**, and 21 seaman to **Michilimackinac** in the spring of 1814 with intentions of forming a dockyard at the **Nottawasaga River**. Other ambitious plans were conceived, but nothing was accomplished until after the war, when a small dockyard was developed at **Penetanguishene Bay**.

MAUMEE RIVER. Flowing into **Miamis Bay** on **Lake Erie** about 35 miles southwest of the **Detroit River** at modern-day Toledo, **Ohio**, this river was also known as the Miamis River.

MCARTHUR, DUNCAN (1772–1839). A settler in **Ohio**, McArthur was a member of that state's legislature and had risen to the rank of **major general** in the **Ohio Militia** before 1812. He volunteered his services in the spring of 1812 and was elected **colonel** of the First Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which participated in and was captured during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). **Lewis Cass**, **James Findlay**, and he were harsh critics of Hull.

In February 1813, he became a **colonel** in the new **Twenty-sixth Regiment of U.S. Infantry** and then **brigadier general** in March. He commanded a wing of the **Army of the Northwest** during Major General **William Harrison's** invasion of **UC** in September but re-

mained with part of the force at **Detroit** and was not at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October).

In May 1814, McArthur took over from Harrison as commander of the Army of the Northwest at Detroit. He launched a raid into UC in October that resulted in the **skirmish at Malcolm's Mills**. Intended to support Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814), the raid accomplished little and took place as American forces were withdrawing back to **Buffalo, New York**.

McArthur was discharged from the army in June 1815 and helped negotiate the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815). He concluded other treaties and remained active in Ohio politics for the rest of his life.

MCARTHUR, FORT. This fort, consisting of two **blockhouses** and a **stockade**, was on the Scioto River, three miles west of modern-day Kenton, **Ohio**. It was built in the early summer of 1812 by Colonel **Duncan McArthur** and the **Ohio Militia** as an outpost on the road being cut to the **Maumee River** and on to **Detroit** during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River**.

MCCALL, EDWARD R. (1790–1853). McCall was born in Beaufort, **South Carolina**, and joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1808, advancing to **lieutenant** in 1811. He was the first officer on board the U.S. Brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant **William Burrows**, when it fought with HM Sloop *Boxer*, Commander **Samuel Blyth**, on the morning of 5 September 1813. Early in the fighting, Burrows was mortally wounded, and McCall took command, captured the British vessel, and brought both **brigs** into **Portland, Maine**. In January 1814, the **U.S. Congress** voted to present McCall with a gold medal for his victory. He was promoted to **captain** in 1835.

MCCLURE, GEORGE (1770–1851). McClure was Irish by birth and went to the **United States** in 1790, having been trained as a carpenter. Pursuing that trade in western **New York**, he became a successful entrepreneur, held several civil posts, and rose to the rank of **brigadier general** in the **New York Militia**.

McClure came to notoriety late in 1813. On 27 August, Governor

Daniel Tompkins ordered him to form a **brigade** of New York Militia and march to join Major General **James Wilkinson's division** on the **Niagara Frontier**. He arrived at **Lewiston, New York**, on 27 September; detached parts of his force to **garrison** points along the **Niagara River**; and a week later crossed with about 1,400 men who agreed to serve outside New York. Wilkinson departed from the frontier during the first week of October, leaving McClure in command of his **militia**, about 500 militia-volunteers and 150 native warriors (probably **Seneca** with some **Tuscarora** and possibly **Oneida**) under Lieutenant Colonel **Cyrenius Chapin**, the **Canadian Volunteers** under Major **Joseph Willcocks**, and just over 900 **regulars** (including the **First and Second U.S. Regiments of Artillery** and **Twenty-third U.S. Regiment of Infantry**) under Colonel **Winfield Scott**.

On 10 October, McClure marched from **Fort George** with about 1,100 militia and warriors in a roundabout route to **Twelve Mile Creek, Chippawa, Queenston**, and back. In the meantime, Scott left Niagara with most of the **regulars** to join **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River**, leaving about 100 officers and men of the First Artillery behind. Major General **William Harrison** arrived at Fort George with 1,100 men on 31 October. McClure wanted him to join with the militia for an attack on **Burlington Heights**. Harrison agreed to the scheme but was ordered by Secretary of War **John Armstrong** to take his men to **Sackets Harbor**; he embarked in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on 16 November, leaving about 370 regulars behind.

McClure sent patrols and detachments along the **Niagara Peninsula** over the next three weeks and aspired to attack Burlington Heights, but his volunteers began to leave him, and, with the expiration of his force's service coming on 9 December, he despaired of being able to hold even Fort George. With this in mind, he referred to instructions sent by Armstrong early in October and ordered the **destruction of Niagara** (10–11 December). His militia and Willcocks's men set the town aflame and then withdrew to New York the next morning. Residents on the New York side of the river deplored his action, realizing that the British would avenge it, and local militia refused to serve under McClure as the British undertook a series of raids over the next couple of weeks. By the time of the British **raid**

at **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December), McClure had headed for his home in Bath, New York.

McClure survived the ignominy of his deeds and flourished after the war, employed as a sheriff for a period and as a member of the state legislature. He moved to **Illinois** in the 1830s and ended his days there.

MCCREA'S FARM, UC, SKIRMISH AT (15 December 1813).

From December 1813 until March 1814, the American force at **Detroit** was commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Butler (**Twenty-eighth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**). He sent a detachment of about 42 officers and men (mainly from the **Twenty-sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**) under Lieutenant Joseph Larwill (**Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery**) to establish an observation post at the farm of Thomas McCrea, on the **Thames River** about 25 miles southwest of **Moraviantown**. The British maintained a small outpost at **Delaware** commanded by Captain Alexander Stewart, **1/1st Regiment of Foot**. In the second week of December, Stewart sent Lieutenant Henry Medcalf with a 30-man detachment (men from Medcalf's own **Norfolk County Militia** and some from the **Middlesex County Militia**, the **Provincial Light Dragoons**, and the Loyal Kent Volunteers of the **Kent County Militia**) down the Thames to collect cattle. Medcalf heard about the Americans at McCrea's, and during the predawn hours of 15 December 1813, his men surrounded the American camp and attacked at sunrise, killing one man and wounding three others without suffering any casualties themselves. The British took 38 captives and returned to Delaware.

Butler did not set up another post this far up the Thames, but he did send raiding parties into the vicinity. One of these, in February 1814, was headed by Captain **Andrew Holmes** and resulted in the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March).

MCDOUALL, ROBERT (1774–1848). Born in Scotland, McDouall entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in the **49th Regiment of Foot** in 1797 and a month later was made **lieutenant** in the **8th Regiment of Foot**. He advanced to **captain** in 1804, saw action at Copenhagen and Martinique, and went to Canada with the 8th in 1810.

In the summer of 1812, he was an **aide-de-camp** to **Sir George**

Prevost and was present with him at the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May 1813). After carrying dispatches to Brigadier General **John Vincent**, McDouall participated in the **battle of Stoney Creek** on 6 June and later that month was made a **major** in the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencibles**. Sent to England with dispatches, he was **breveted to lieutenant colonel** and when he returned in November became the lieutenant colonel of a **battalion** of the **Militia Light Infantry** in **LC**.

In May 1814, Prevost gave McDouall command at **Fort Mackinac**. In June, McDouall sent Major **William McKay** to capture the recently built American **Fort Shelby** at **Prairie du Chien**, and this was accomplished on 20 July.

McDouall remained in the army (though on **half pay** after 1816), was made a **CB** in 1817, and eventually rose to the rank of **major general**.

MCHENRY, FORT. Located on Whetstone Point on the western lip of the branch of the Patapsco River in **Maryland**, which leads to the inner harbor of **Baltimore**, this **fortification** was an improvement of one existing during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). Work to fully develop the site began in 1799 and ended in 1802, when it was named for former Secretary of War James McHenry. It was a pentagon, made largely of masonry, with a **bastion** in each corner and holding 30 guns in total. It was surrounded by a dry ditch and had one exterior **battery** of 10 guns.

In 1813, Captain Lloyd Beall commanded a **garrison** of about 60 officers and men of the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery**. When Major General **Samuel Smith** of the **Maryland Militia** began his efforts to improve the defenses of Baltimore in the spring of 1813, he used his influence to have the ineffective and uncooperative Beall replaced with Major **George Armistead**. By September 1814, with Smith's help, Armistead had properly set up the **fort's** guns and facilities, and it was able to withstand the ferocious British bombardment on 13–14 September during the failed **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

The **U.S. Army** used the fort through World War I, and in 1925 it was named a national monument.

MCKAY, FORT. See SHELBY, FORT, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN.

MCKAY, WILLIAM (1772–1832). Born in **New York**, McKay was the son of an United Empire Loyalist who settled in Glengarry County, **UC**. He became a fur trader with the **North West Company**, in which he eventually became a successful partner.

In 1812, McKay carried the dispatches from Major General **Isaac Brock** that led Captain **Charles Roberts** to mount the expedition that captured **Fort Mackinac** on 17 July. He returned to **Montreal**, joined the **Corps of Canadian Voyageurs**, and was present at the **first battle of LaColle** (20 November 1812).

In the spring of 1813, McKay was given a **commission** as **captain** in the Fifth Battalion of **Select Embodied Militia** in **LC**. Late in 1813, he led a supply party to **Fort Mackinac** and the following March was made captain of the **Michigan Fencibles**. Several weeks later, he was promoted to **major** in the Embodied Militia, to which was added a local rank of **lieutenant colonel** when Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall**, commandant at Michilimackinac, put McKay in command of a force to capture the recently built American **Fort Shelby** at **Prairie du Chien**. This task the efficient and popular McKay accomplished on 20 July 1814, afterward returning to the **Lake Huron** base. He spent the rest of the war conducting supply trains to and from **Montreal**.

Following the war, McKay was made the deputy superintendent and agent of the Indian Department at Drummond Island, the postwar British station in northern Lake Huron. His death came during the 1832 cholera epidemic at **Montreal**.

MEDWAY (RN). Under the command of Captain **Augustus Brine**, this **ship** pursued and captured the U.S. Sloop **Siren**, Lieutenant **Nathaniel Nicholson**, on 12 July 1814 off South Africa. The ship was converted to a prison hulk in 1847 and broken up in 1865.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1812, Northfleet, UK. Actual armament: (1813) 28 32-pdr lg, 28 18-pdr lg, six 12-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 176' gd × 47' 6" × 21' dh, 1,768 tons. Crew: 480.

MEDWAY'S PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF SIREN (12 July 1814).

The U.S. Sloop **Siren** under Lieutenant **Nathaniel Nicholson** (Mas-

ter Commandant George Parker having recently died) was cruising west of South Africa when HMS *Medway*, Captain **Augustus Brine**, came into sight and made chase. The pursuit lasted 11 hours, and Nicholson's efforts to lighten the **brig** by jettisoning, boats, anchors, and spars could not stop the British **74-gun ship** from overtaking him. Nicholson surrendered in the face of superior firepower.

MEIGS, FORT. Located about 12 miles up the **Maumee River** near the area known then as The Rapids, near modern-day Toledo, **Ohio**, this post was named for the governor of Ohio, Return Meigs (1764–1824). Brigadier General **William Harrison** ordered its construction early in February 1813. Captain Charles Gratiot, **U.S. Corps of Engineers**, designed it, and Captain **Eleazar Wood** supervised most of the construction. It comprised seven **blockhouses** (each with a piece of **artillery**), five **batteries**, two **magazines**, and numerous storehouses in an enclosure measuring about 10 acres. It had a lofty **palisade** surrounded by ditches and **abatis**. When Harrison prepared for the invasion of **UC** in September, he ordered the fort to be greatly reduced in size and most of the former structures destroyed.

MEIGS, FORT, INVESTMENT OF (21–28 July 1813). After the siege in May, **Fort Meigs** was reinforced with a detachment of the **Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, and when Major General **William Harrison** went south to make arrangements for men and supplies, Brigadier General Green Clay of the **Kentucky Militia** assumed command. Skirmishing with British native allies in the vicinity took place during June and July.

At **Amherstburg**, now—Major General **Henry Procter**'s situation had become increasingly difficult. Although he agreed with Commander **Robert Barclay** that an assault on the **USN** base at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, was a good idea, he was pressured by **Tecumseh** into attacking Fort Meigs again. The recent arrival of families from the **Fox, Menominee, Ojibwa, Ottawa, Sac, Sioux, and Winnebago** nations had increased the number of warriors present to over 3,000. While they traveled by land, Procter set out in **bateaux** and other small craft (Barclay was patrolling off Erie) with about 500 **regulars** (the **1/41st Regiment of Foot, Royal Newfoundland Fencibles, and Royal Regiment of Artillery**). They arrived at the **Maumee River**

on 20 July and **invested** Fort Meigs the next day. Without large enough vessels to transport heavy guns, Procter was not able to execute a **siege**, and over the next few days only outbursts of small-arms fire occurred when the natives paraded near the American position. An attempt to draw Green's force out of the fort by means of a ruse failed, and Procter withdrew his men on 28 July, ending a fruitless expedition. He next headed to attack **Fort Stephenson**.

MEIGS, FORT, SIEGE OF (1–9 May 1813). Major General **William Harrison** stationed the main strength of his **Army of the Northwest** at **Fort Meigs** during the spring of 1813. In April, it consisted of about 1,200 officers and men from the **Seventeenth** and **Nineteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**; a few companies of **Kentucky**, **Ohio**, and **Pennsylvania Militia**; and **12-month volunteers**, including the **Pittsburgh Blues**, the **Greenburg Riflemen**, and the **Petersburg Volunteers**. A party of **Shawnee** warriors served as scouts for Harrison.

Under pressure from his native allies led by **Tecumseh**, **Roundhead**, and **Main Poc**, Brigadier General **Henry Procter** decided to attack Fort Meigs and embarked a force at **Amherstburg** on 23 April consisting of about 520 **regulars** (the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles**, and **Royal Regiment of Artillery**), about 460 of the **Essex County** and **Kent County Militias**, and eventually 1,200 natives (**Chippawas**, **Kickapoos**, **Ottawas**, **Potawatomis**, **Sacs**, **Shawnees**, **Winnebagos**, and **Wyandots**).

The British flotilla of **PM** vessels and **bateaux** landed the same day at the mouth of the **Maumee River** and proceeded to establish a camp at the old **Fort Miamis**. Procter ordered four **batteries** built to the south of the fort on the Maumee opposite Fort Meigs. These **batteries**, supplemented by the guns in two **gunboats**, began the **siege** by opening fire on 1 May. They could not breach the defenses, so Procter built two more batteries on the American side, east of the fort. Wet weather inhibited the incendiary effects of the bombardment. The American batteries answered in return, and there was continuous small-arms fire, especially when native parties approached the fort.

Brigadier General Green Clay, at the head of 1,200 Kentucky Mili-

tia and a party of Shawnee warriors, was moving down the Maumee toward the fort on 4 May. Harrison ordered him to land 800 men on the north side of the river to attack the British batteries while the remainder landed on the southern shore and fought their way into the fort. Early on 5 May, Lieutenant Colonel William Dudley led the northern detachment to overrun the British batteries and spike the guns, but he ignored his orders to stop there. The Kentuckians chased the British into the woods north of the guns, apparently yelling, “**Remember the Raisin!**” The native forces and soldiers ambushed them, while other regulars recaptured their guns, trapping the Kentuckians. Only 150 of them escaped to the fort. Tecumseh and Procter lost control of the natives, who murdered and mutilated an uncounted number of helpless wounded and prisoners (including Dudley), sparking an eventual loud protest of outrage across the **United States**.

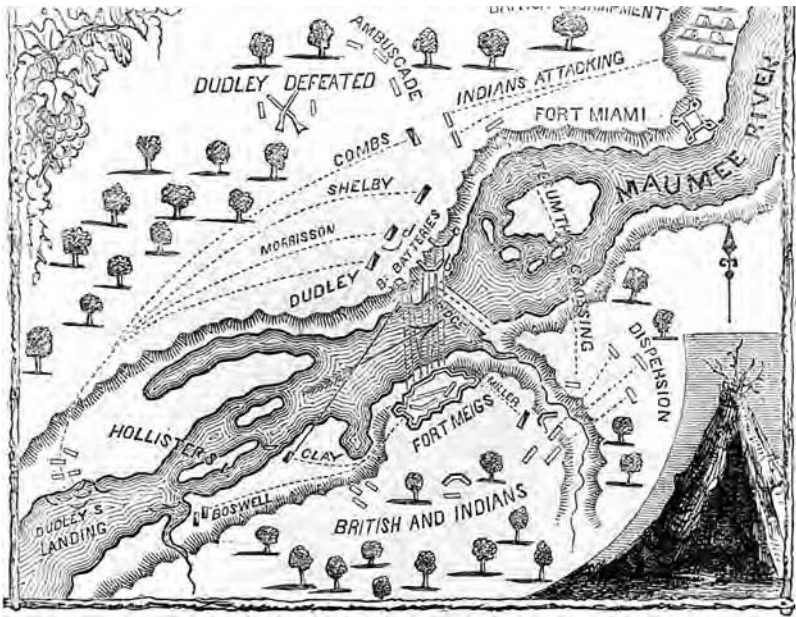
The rest of Clay’s detachment made it into the fort, while Harrison sent Colonel **John Miller** with about 350 regulars and **militia** in a **sortie** against the batteries east of the fort. Miller’s force seized and spiked the guns and captured 41 prisoners but was hotly engaged during his withdrawal and ultimately lost 30 killed and 90 wounded.

The total American losses were estimated at 80 killed and 190 wounded at the fort, while the British exchanged 21 regulars for their captured men. Procter reported capturing more than 600 Kentuckians with the intention of **paroling** them, but some of them were probably among those murdered by the natives, as American accounts refer to only about 300 prisoners being returned. Procter also reported 15 killed and 46 wounded in his force.

In the days after the battle, Procter’s native warriors and most of the militia departed, diminishing his strength considerably. With sickness sweeping through his camp and his powder supply dwindling, Procter lifted the siege on 9 May.

Both commanders claimed a victory in the affair. Harrison’s army had suffered considerably, however, and Procter lost Tecumseh’s respect for not having moved more decisively to capture Fort Meigs.

MELVILLE ISLAND. This island, about four acres in size, is located in the North West Arm in the harbor at **Halifax, Nova Scotia**. The British purchased it in 1803 for the purpose of erecting a prison com-



The Siege of Fort Meigs, May 1813. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C10740

pound, the only establishment ever built in North America expressly to house **prisoners of war**. Between 1803 and 1813, more than 1,500 French prisoners were confined there.

By 1812, wooden buildings had been erected as quarters for guards and officers, for cooking, and for storage. The prison itself was a two-story structure about 200 feet long and 50 feet wide, and there was a **palisade**, a stone wall, and a bridge that connected the island to the shore. During the War of 1812, more than 8,100 American seamen and soldiers were accommodated there or in the prison hulks nearby, some only briefly. John Mitchell, from Philadelphia, took post at Halifax in October 1812 to act as an agent for the Americans. The majority of them were taken off **privateers**, of whom few were **exchanged** or **freed on parole** as quickly as **USN** or military personnel were. As in other such facilities, the prisoners used the small stipend they received to buy necessary items. In addition, they

made items for sale and earned money through such activities as gambling. It appears to have been a well-organized facility, with the prisoners also taking steps to marshal themselves. Overcrowding was a problem, however, and the death rate among the prisoners was high.

MELVILLE, ROBERT SAUNDERS DUNDAS, LORD (1771–1851). A Scottish statesman, Melville was a **Tory** and the son of an influential government official. He first entered the British cabinet in 1807 and in April 1812 became First Lord of the **Admiralty**, although the closest he had come to actual naval service was to marry the daughter of a wealthy admiral. An efficient and successful administrator, Melville held the office until 1827. He and the other Admiralty lords directed the **RN**'s activities through the War of 1812, and he took a personal interest in the accomplishments of such individual officers as **Sir James Yeo**. Melville returned to the Admiralty from 1828 to 1830, when the **Duke of Wellington** was prime minister, and then retired to private life.

MEMOIRS. The war produced a vast amount of public correspondence and official documents and a large number of personal memoirs, diaries, and journals. The latter material, most of which was prepared by **commissioned** officers, provides interesting insights into actual conditions on the battlefield or at sea as well as shedding light on the motivations of men. Among the individuals whose personal experiences have been published are **George Gleig, Jarvis Hanks, John Le Couteur, William Merritt, Ned Myers, Usher Parsons, and Cromwell Pearce.**

MENOMINEE. Members of this aboriginal nation (their name meant "Wild Rice People") lived in settlements in modern-day **Wisconsin** in the area just west of Green Bay, where they were fully involved in the fur trade at the time of the War of 1812. The allied themselves with the British when the war began and were with Captain **Charles Roberts**'s force at the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812). Some warriors were also with Major General **Isaac Brock** at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August), while others are said to have participated in the **massacre at Fort Dearborn** (15 August). In 1813, they joined the British at the **investment of Fort Meigs** (July) and the

assault on Fort Stephenson (2 August) but became so disenchanted with the British that most of them returned to their homelands. In 1814, elements of the Menominee fought with the British on the Mississippi River during the **siege of Fort Shelby** (Prairie du Chien, 17–20 July 1814) and the American **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August).

Among the prominent Menominee warriors were Tomah and **Oshkosh**.

MERCHANTMAN. This was any privately owned vessel involved in commercial activities.

MERRITT, WILLIAM HAMILTON (1793–1862). Merritt was born in **New York**, but his father relocated the family to a land grant on **Twelve Mile Creek** on the **Niagara Peninsula** in 1796. Educated locally, Merritt worked on his father's farm and as a merchant from the age of 15.

Merritt was **commissioned** a **lieutenant** in the **Lincoln County Militia** in the spring of 1812 as a member of the 1st Troop of Niagara Light Dragoons. In this capacity, he was actively involved in patrols and “express,” or courier, duties on the Niagara Peninsula and up to the **Detroit River** and was present at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812). The **troop** was disbanded during the winter, and in the spring of 1813 Merritt was made a **captain** and ordered to raise a **company** of (**Niagara**) **Provincial Light Dragoons** as part of the new **UC Militia** organization. This he did, somewhat begrudgingly, but then served with great energy on the peninsula and was present for the **battles of Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), and **Beaver Dams** (24 June) and throughout the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). After a period of sickness, he returned to active duty during the early months and spring of 1814 and was at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), where he was taken prisoner. He was confined with other British officers at Cheshire, **Massachusetts**, and returned home after the war.

Merritt became a prominent industrialist and political figure and is best known for founding the original Welland Canal Company. The memoirs of Merritt's experiences during the war have been published in various forms, the most recent (2001) being “*A Desire of Serving*

and Defending My Country”: The War of 1812 Journals of William Hamilton Merritt. Canadian historian Stuart Sutherland edited this version, providing detailed notes to clarify the many obscure references in this rare and lengthy first-person account by a young Canadian militiaman.

MESQUAKE. *See* SAUK.

MIAMI. The name of this nation derived from the **Ojibwa** term for “People of the Peninsula.” In 1812, they lived in villages scattered through the area south of **Lake Michigan** between the Wabash and Ohio Rivers. The Miami tended toward neutrality or an alliance with the American government.

A party of **Miamis** warriors went with Captain William Wells to escort the **garrison** from **Fort Dearborn** to **Fort Wayne** and, apparently, did not participate in the **massacre at Fort Dearborn** (15 August). However, others were part of the native force at the **investment of Fort Harrison** (3–16 September). Brigadier General **William Harrison** sent detachments to destroy native villages in the wake of this attack and others, leading to the **battle of the Mississinewa River** (17–18 December), in which the Miami played a key role. The various Miami bands fled after this action, and it appears that only a handful of warriors joined British forces and were present at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813).

Representatives from Miami tribes signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) to ally themselves with the U.S. government and the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815) with American officials to formally end hostilities.

MIAMIS BAY. This was the mouth of the **Maumee** (or **Miamis**) **River**, which flows into **Lake Erie** about 35 miles southwest of the **Detroit River** at modern-day Toledo, **Ohio**.

MIAMIS, FORT. Located about two miles downriver from **Fort Meigs**, this was the site of abandoned French and British forts that the British under Major General **Henry Procter** occupied during the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July 1813).

MIAMIS RIVER. *See* MAUMEE RIVER.

MICHIGAN FENCIBLES. This British force was formed in 1813 at the suggestion of Captain **Charles Roberts** to fill the need for more **regular** troops at **Fort Mackinac**. It consisted of a **captain, lieutenant** and **ensign**, and 50 **rank and file** who enlisted for the duration of the war and received the same training, rations, clothing, and pay as **regulars** did. The men were generally French Canadian. Captain **William McKay** was appointed its captain in March 1814. A detachment of the Fencibles played the leading role in the **capture of Fort Shelby, Prairie du Chien**, on 20 July 1814. A handful of the men were involved in the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September) and then rejoined the others at **Fort McKay** for garrison duty. Other Fencibles were present during the **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August).

MICHIGAN, LAKE. The third largest of the Great Lakes and 577 feet above sea level, Lake Michigan connects to **Lake Huron** at the Straits of Mackinac near **Michilimackinac Island**.

MICHIGAN MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1806, there were 1,028 officers and men in the **standing militia**. They were formed in two **regiments** and the Michigan Legionary Corps (consisting of one **company** each of **light infantry, artillery, cavalry, and rifles**) and half a dozen companies on the **St. Clair River** and at **Michilimackinac**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, there was no quota for Michigan, but Acting Governor Reuben Atwater detached a portion of the force to serve in the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Hull**. They were captured when the British, under Major General **Isaac Brock**, took **Detroit** (16 August 1812) and then **paroled**. In 1814, some militia were involved in the **skirmishes at the Longwoods** (4 March) and **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November).

MICHIGAN TERRITORY. Originally part of the **Northwest Territory**, Michigan became a separate territory in 1805 with its capital at **Detroit**. In 1810, its population was about 5,000. During the war

years, its governors were **William Hull** (1805–1813), Acting Governor Reuben Atwater (1811–1812), and **Lewis Cass** (**Republican**, 1813–1831). Michigan became a state in 1818.

MICHILIMACKINAC, ASSAULT ON (4 August 1814). The recapture of Michilimackinac was the key objective of Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814). He arrived off the island on 25 July with the U.S. Sloops *Lawrence* and *Niagara*, the U.S. Brig *Caledonia*, and the U.S. Schooners *Tigress* and *Scorpion* (1813). They carried 750 soldiers (five **companies** from the **Seventeenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; a few men from the **Corps of Artillery**; and about 250 **Ohio Militia**) under Lieutenant Colonel **George Croghan**. Hampered by bad weather, the Americans were not able to begin an assault until 2:00 P.M. on 4 August, landing the military force and a party of **U.S. Marines** on the northwest side of the island.

Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall** commanded the British post. At his disposal, he had about 136 **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles**, a dozen or so of the **10th Royal Veteran Battalion**, 13 of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, 37 **Michigan Fencibles**, 100 militia from **Saint Joseph Island** and St. Mary, and about 360 native warriors (**Chippewas, Menominees, Ottawas, and Wyandots**). McDouall had been expecting an American attack and had built a new **blockhouse** and **palisade** (named Fort George) on the rise of land north of **Fort Mackinac**. He also had plenty of time to observe Sinclair's **squadron** and anticipate his enemy's actions.

Leaving part of his force in the forts, McDouall placed about 140 **regulars** and 50 **militia** and two small **field guns** in line on a low ridge bisecting a roadway one mile northwest of Fort George on the cleared property of the Dousman family. He sent the warriors into the surrounding woods to guard each flank. Croghan advanced up the road from the shore to the Dousman property, where he drew up his line and a pair of field guns.

The first volleys began around 3:15 P.M. The British held their line, and the Americans slowly advanced. Croghan sent one part of his force to outflank the British on their right and a second party through the woods on the British left. This latter group only just entered the woods when it was attacked by a party of Menominees who inflicted

the heaviest American casualties of the day, including Major **Andrew Holmes**, who was killed. The ferocity of the fire fight drove the flanking party back to Croghan's main line. After some brief exchanges of fire, the Americans withdrew to the shore and were back aboard the squadron about 6:00 P.M.

McDouall later lamented that the Americans would have suffered greater losses had so many of the warriors not left the scene; he did not report any casualties to his force. The Americans lost 19 killed and 45 wounded.

MICHILIMACKINAC, CAPTURE OF (17 July 1812). Early in 1812, Major General **Isaac Brock** advised Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** that this post should be captured if a war came, but Prevost preferred a defensive stance. After the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), Brock sent conflicting messages to the British commander at **St. Joseph Island**, Captain **Charles Roberts**, which Roberts interpreted as instructions to attack **Fort Mackinac**. With a force consisting of 46 officers and men of the **10th Royal Veteran Battalion**, three men from the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, about 200 fur traders, and about 400 native warriors (of the **Chippewa, Menominee, Ottawa, Sioux, and Winnebago** nations) with the influential fur trader **Robert Dickson**, Roberts set out for the American post by boat and canoe and in the **merchantman Caledonia** on 16 August 1812.

They arrived at 3:00 A.M. on 17 July and by 10:00 A.M. had placed a **field gun** on a hill overlooking the fort with the force in clear view. Roberts offered the American commander, **Lieutenant Porter Hanks**, the opportunity to surrender, which he did, without a shot being fired. Porter and his 61 officers and men of the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery** were taken prisoner and sent to **Detroit on parole** and brought news of the capture to Brigadier General **William Hull**. The British seized nine merchantmen and 700 packs of fur.

Brock greeted the capture with great approval. Prevost's approval was tempered by his preference for defensive operations, although the fact that Roberts's expedition came after Hull's invasion of **UC** at **Sandwich** justified British aggressions. News of the fall of Michilimackinac influenced Hull's decision to end his invasion and with-

draw to Detroit. It also helped solidify the alliance between native forces and the British.

The loss of Michilimackinac greatly concerned President **James Madison** and his cabinet, and its recapture became a goal for Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1812) and Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814). On the directions of Secretary of the Navy **William Jones**, Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** briefly saw this as one of his ultimate goals in 1813. In this way, the bloodless capture affected American strategies through the war, drawing resources from other campaigns.

MICHILIMACKINAC COMPANY. This company was formed in 1807 by traders, such as **Robert Dickson**, and merchants in **Montreal**, such as William McGillivray, in an attempt to protect British rights to the fur trade south and west of **Michilimackinac Island** that were being negatively affected by American expansion interests.

MICHILIMACKINAC, FORT. *See* FORT MACKINAC.

MICHILIMACKINAC ISLAND. Also known as **Mackinac** or **Mackinaw**, the 1,800-acre island lies in the Straits of Mackinac at the confluence of **Lakes Michigan** and **Huron**.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Middlesex County was located around the modern-day city of London, Ontario, and was part of the London District of **UC**. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812. They were posted at various points or on patrol in search of parties of marauding American sympathizers and were involved in the **skirmish at McCrea's Farm** (15 December 1813). A company fought at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July 1814).

Among its prominent officers during the war were Joseph Ryerson and Robert Nichol.

MIDSHIPMAN. *See* RANK AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

MILAN DECREE (17 December 1807). In retaliation to trade restrictions invoked by Britain through **orders in council** in 1806 and 1807,

Napoleon extended the trade limitations of his **Berlin Decree** (21 November 1806) by ordering the seizure of any vessel found to have landed at a British port or to be carrying British goods, to have been inspected by the British, or to have been given British papers. This phase of Napoleon's **Continental System** was essentially another **paper blockade**, although it resulted in the seizure of hundreds of **merchantmen**; American shippers were particularly outraged at their losses.

MILITARY DISTRICTS (U.S.). On 1 May 1813, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** issued a set of rules and regulations under which the **U.S. Army** was to operate. The document featured a new organization of the country into nine military districts; from 1810, it had been divided into the Northern and Southern Departments. From July 1813, the command structures of each of the districts and relevant matters, including recruitment, were specified. The military districts and their original commanding officers were as follows: First—**Massachusetts** (including **Maine**) and **New Hampshire**, Brigadier General Thomas H. Cushing; Second—**Rhode Island** and **Connecticut**, Brigadier General Henry Burbeck; Third—Lower **New York** and eastern **New Jersey**, Major General **Henry Dearborn**; Fourth—Western **New Jersey**, **Pennsylvania**, and **Delaware**, Brigadier General Joseph Bloomfield; Fifth—**Maryland** and **Virginia**, Major General **Wade Hampton**; Sixth—**North Carolina**, **South Carolina**, and **Georgia**, Major General Thomas Pinckney; Seventh—**Louisiana**, **Tennessee**, and **Mississippi Territory**, Brigadier General Thomas Flournoy; Eighth—**Kentucky**, **Ohio**, **Michigan**, **Indiana**, and **Illinois Territories**; and **Missouri**, Major General **William Harrison**; Ninth—Upper **New York** and **Vermont**, Major General **James Wilkinson**.

The Tenth Military District was made in July 1814 to include **Washington, D.C.**, and parts of **Virginia** and **Maryland** with Brigadier General **William Winder** in command.

MILITIA FORCES. In **Canada** and the **United States**, men were required to be on the roll of their local militias from the age of 16 or 18 to 45 or even 60 years of age. They formed the **sedentary militia** (in **Canada**) and the **standing militia** (in the **United States**) and were

organized according the laws of the individual provinces and states into districts and/or **divisions, brigades, regiments, or battalions** and **companies** of **infantry, artillery, cavalry, light infantry, and rifles**. These laws, which were revised from time to time, also covered the training, compensation, outfitting, length of service, and specific employment of the forces. In the United States, **uniformed militia** also formed, raised by prominent citizens who financed and strictly supervised the outfitting and training of individual companies or battalions. An example of such an **elite** force was the **Pittsburgh Blues**.

Before and during the war, the provinces and states detached parts of the militia for service in various forms of **embodied militia** for set periods of time and with limited responsibilities. Frequently, militia regiments and individual companies volunteered to serve with the detached militia forces or with elements of the **U.S. Army**; uniform companies were frequent volunteers. In the United States, such bodies differed from those who served under the **Volunteer Military Corps Act** of 6 February 1812. The Pittsburgh Blues became a company of the latter group of **12-month volunteers**.

In the United States, there was federal legislation that stipulated essentially that state militias were to be employed to suppress local insurrection and to defend against invasion within their own boundaries. By their own legislation, the states controlled their militia, causing a controversy in the war when the federal government ordered the states to supply a portion of their men for service. This was seen by some states, in particular **Connecticut, Massachusetts, and Rhode Island**, as an infringement on state autonomy. Other states, such as **Kentucky, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania**, enthusiastically detached militia for service on the various campaigns.

Comprehensive studies of the organization and employment of the provincial and state militias are few and far between, and as a result, a full understanding of their organization and employment during the War of 1812 is lacking. For more details, see individual entries in this dictionary under each province and state.

MILITIA LIGHT INFANTRY. *See* SELECT EMBODIED MILITIA IN LC.

MILLER, JAMES (1776–1851). A resident of **New Hampshire**, Miller was a lawyer and **militia** officer before gaining a **commission** as **major** in the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in July 1808. He transferred to the **Fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** as **lieutenant colonel** in 1810 and commanded elements of the **First** and **Fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** in the **Army of the Northwest** during Brigadier General **William Hull’s campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). He played a prominent leadership role in the **skirmish at Maguaga** (9 August) for which he was later **brevetted** to **colonel**. He was captured when **Detroit** fell to the British under Major General **Isaac Brock** on 16 August. After he had been **exchanged**, Miller was made **colonel** of the **Sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, which participated in the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), and Major General **James Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) and was present at the **skirmishes at French Creek** (1–2 November) and **Hoop’s Creek** (10 November).

Appointed colonel of the **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in March 1814, Miller and his **unit** joined Brigadier General **Eleazar Ripley’s** First Brigade in the Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** under Major General **Jacob Brown** training at **Buffalo**. They did not see any action in **Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October) until the **battle of Lundy’s Lane** (25 July). During the middle stage of the fighting, as darkness fell, Brown ordered Miller to capture the British **artillery**, which had inflicted high casualties on the Americans. Miller replied, **“I’ll try, Sir!”** and unwittingly created an enduring motto for determination. His men seized the guns in a vicious firefight at close quarters and remained to hold them until the fighting ended.

Miller was brevetted to **brigadier general** in recognition of his conduct at Lundy’s Lane. He was present throughout the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), saw action during the **assault on Fort Erie**, and commanded a column during Brown’s **Fort Erie sortie** on 17 September.

Considered one of the finest regimental commanders in the war, Miller was presented with a gold coin by the **U.S. Congress** and a **sword** by **New York**. He left the army in 1819 and served as governor of Arkansas Territory from 1819 to 1824.

MILLER, JOHN (?–1846). A resident of **Ohio**, Miller joined the **U.S. Army** as a **lieutenant colonel** in the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in March 1812 and was promoted to **colonel** of the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** the following July. He marched this force to join the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Harrison** and was present during the construction of **Fort Meigs** in the winter and spring of 1813 and its defense during the **siege** of May and the **investment** in July. As part of a multiphase attack on the British on 5 May, Harrison ordered Miller to lead a **sortie** against British **batteries** to the east of the fort. Miller succeeded in overrunning the batteries and **spiking** the guns, but a British counterattack forced him to retreat slowly and take heavy casualties.

In May 1814, he was transferred as colonel back to the Seventeenth Infantry and in May 1815 made colonel of the **Third U.S. Regiment of Infantry**; he encamped with 300 of his men at the council meeting held to sign the **Treaties of Portage des Sioux** (July–September 1815). He resigned his **commission** in 1818.

MINGO. This nation lived near the **Sandusky River** in **Ohio** at the time of the war and were reported to have been involved in only one action: supporting the British at the **battle of Frenchtown** (22 January 1813).

MINK. This small **schooner** was a **merchantman** involved in the fur trade on the upper lakes. It was captured about 22 July 1814 by elements of Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814).

MISSISQUOI BAY, LC, RAIDS AT (12 October 1813, 22 March 1814). After he had encamped his division at Four Corners, **New York**, in September 1813, Major General **Wade Hampton** ordered Colonel Isaac Clark to undertake a “petty war” at the border between **Vermont** and **LC** to stifle smuggling and to divert British attention from his force.

On 12 October, Clark, at the head of about 100 men (some from his **Eleventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** posted at **Burlington, Vermont**), crossed in boats from **Chazy, New York**, to a point near Phil-

ipsburg, LC, on Missisquoi Bay (the eastern basin in the northern reach of **Lake Champlain**) and seized the village, which was guarded by a detachment of the 4th Battalion of **Select Embodied Militia** of **LC Militia**. A brief skirmish erupted in which one Canadian was killed and seven wounded. Clark took 100 prisoners, confiscated livestock and stores, and returned to Chazy.

Major General **James Wilkinson** sent some of Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb's** **brigade** to briefly occupy Philipsburg again on 22 March 1814.

MISSISSAUGA. These people were related to the **Ojibwa** nation and lived near the western end of **Lake Ontario**. Some of their warriors were said to have joined the British during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October 1813).

MISSISSAUGA, FORT, UC. Realizing that **Fort George** was placed too high up the **Niagara River** to control its mouth and dominate the American **Fort Niagara**, the British began developing a new **fortification** about two miles west of the river's mouth in 1814. It eventually became known as Fort Mississauga.

MISSISSINEWA RIVER, BATTLE ON THE (17–18 December 1812). To protect his supply lines and to remove the threat of native raids, Brigadier General **William Harrison** ordered Lieutenant Colonel **John Campbell** to lead an expedition of 600 men to destroy **Mississineway** and other villages of the **Delaware** and **Miamis** nations on the Mississinewa River. Campbell collected his force at Franklinton (modern-day Columbus), **Ohio**, consisting of a **squadron** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**; a **company** of the **Nineteenth Infantry**; companies of mounted **militia** from **Kentucky, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Michigan**; and the **Pittsburgh Blues**. They left Franklinton on 25 November, entered **Indiana Territory** on 15 December, and approached the first native village on the Mississinewa River near the modern-day town of Eaton, Indiana, on 16 December. The next day, the force swept through this village and a second one, both of which had been abandoned, taking 42 Delawares captives (only eight of them men) and killing eight others and receiving very few casualties. They camped that night at the first vil-

lage, which they had fortified quickly after destroying most of its dwellings. This was located about 15 miles upriver from the village of Mississineway.

Just before dawn on 18 December, about 300 native warriors, said to be mainly *Miamis*, attacked the camp at several points. The battle lasted an hour before the natives withdrew, leaving as many as 50 of their men dead, while the Americans suffered 12 dead and 65 wounded. The weather had turned cold and snowy, and Campbell's men suffered severely from frostbite. In addition, the natives had killed about 100 of the horses, making the advance to Mississineway impractical and the retreat to safety at Greenville, Ohio, which lasted six days, a grueling ordeal.

Harrison termed the expedition a success, and Campbell was promoted to **colonel**, though the force had accomplished virtually nothing in return for its heavy casualties.

MISSISSINIEWAY. This native village was located 50 miles southwest of **Fort Wayne**, near modern-day Marion, Indiana, where the **Mississinewa River** flows into the Wabash River. In the autumn of 1812, it became a refuge for people of the **Miamis** nation whose villages were destroyed in raids sent by Brigadier General **William Harrison** following the **siege of Fort Wayne** in September. It was one of about six villages on the Mississinewa River.

MISSISSIPPI MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1810, there were 2,300 officers and men in the **standing militia**. They were organized into one **regiment** of two **battalions** with a **company** of **cavalry** in each county. In the federal government's call for militia mobilization in July 1814, the territory's quota was 500. There were voluntary companies of **rifles** and **light infantry**. Two companies of the First Regiment of Mississippi Infantry, U.S. Volunteers, were wiped out in the Battle of Fort Mims on 31 August 1813 during the **Creek War** (1813–1814).

In 1814, the militia formed part of Major General **Andrew Jackson**'s forces at his **capture of Pensacola** (7 November). They also played a critical role in Jackson's defense of **New Orleans**, when a body of men was present during the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28

December), and, in 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January) and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

One officer of note was Thomas Hinds of the Mississippi Mounted Rifles.

MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY. The **U.S. Congress** created the Mississippi Territory in 1798, which included most of the modern-day state and **Alabama**. In 1810, its population was about 31,300, and its capital was Washington. During the war years, its governor was David Holmes (**Federalist**, 1809–1817). Mississippi became a state in 1817.

MISSISSIPPI VOLUNTEERS. This force was raised at **Fort Mackinac** in the summer of 1814 when news reached that place about the American **occupation of Prairie du Chien** (2 June 1814). Fur merchants Thomas G. Anderson and Joseph Rolette raised this **company** of 63 men to be part of Lieutenant Colonel **William McKay**'s expedition to capture **Fort Shelby, Prairie du Chien**, in July. More men joined the volunteers on the march. Some of the volunteers participated in the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September 1814).

MISSOURI TERRITORY. Originally part of the **Louisiana Territory**, Missouri became a separate territory in 1812 with its capital at St. Louis. In 1810, its population was about 20,000. During the war years, its governor was **William Clark** (1812–1820). Missouri became a state in 1821.

Missouri did not submit a return of **militia** before 1812. Two **companies** of militia volunteers were part of Clark's expedition to occupy **Prairie du Chien** (2 June 1814).

MITCHELL, GEORGE EDWARD (1781–1832). Born in **Maryland**, Mitchell followed in his father's footsteps and became a physician in 1805. He then became deeply involved in Maryland politics, holding two key posts.

Mitchell entered the **U.S. Army** as a **major** in the **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery** in May 1812 and helped train the **unit** under Colonel **Alexander Macomb**. The **regiment** went to **Sackets Har-**

bor in the autumn and remained there through the winter. Mitchell was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** in March 1813, participated in the **battles of York** (27 April) and **Fort George** (27 May), and was also present through the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October).

April 1814 found him marching his regiment to the **Niagara Frontier** when he received orders from Major General **Jacob Brown** to turn around and head for **Oswego**, which he was to **garrison**. In a series of forced marches, Mitchell's **unit** of 290 officers and men reached Oswego at the end of April and set to work refitting the dilapidated **fortifications**. During the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May), he put up a firm defense against a vastly superior British combined force before retreating to safety. For this, he was **brevetted to colonel**. He soon transferred to the **Corps of Artillery** but does not appear to have seen any further action.

Mitchell remained in the army until resigning in 1821 and served several terms in the U.S. House of Representatives.

MOBILE, MISSISSIPPI TERRITORY. Modern-day Mobile, **Alabama**, was claimed by the **United States** as part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Spain considered the town part of its **Florida** holdings and protested the American claims. By 1812, the U.S. government considered it part of **Mississippi Territory** and had installed civil officials there. The Spanish did not oust the Americans, and when Major General **James Wilkinson** arrived there with 600 men of the **Third U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and five **USN-manned gunboats**, the Spanish **garrison** surrendered the place without a fight on 15 April 1813. The large and deep bay below the town made it a perfect anchorage for a large **fleet**.

MOHAWK. *See* GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SIX NATIONS.

MOHAWK (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, this **ship** was laid up in 1815 and sold as a hulk in 1825.

Type: 32-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1814, **Sackets Harbor, New York**. Actual armament: (1814) 26 24-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 145' gd × 38' × 12' dh, 1,200 tons. Crew: 350.

MONGUAGON. *See* MAGUAGA.

MONROE, JAMES (1758–1831). Monroe was born in **Virginia** and served as a patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He became a protégé to **Thomas Jefferson**, who steered him into a career in law, politics as a **Republican**, and civic service. He held numerous posts, including federal senator, governor of Virginia, and the minister to France and, later, Great Britain. He and **William Pinkney** negotiated the **Monroe–Pinkney Treaty** (1807), which Jefferson rejected much to Monroe's displeasure.

In 1811, President **James Madison**, whose relationship with Monroe had been chilly, offered him the position of secretary of state, which Monroe accepted after they resolved their differences. He became fully involved in negotiations with the British regarding the **orders in council** but by the end of 1811 concluded that war was inevitable. Monroe favored war and believed that the conquest of **BNA** would allow its use as a bargaining tool with Britain. He wanted a military appointment, but in light of his total lack of experience, Madison declined to allow it. Instead, he made Monroe the secretary of war temporarily in December 1812 and January 1813; he then went back to the Department of State. Through the rest of the year, he explored peace initiatives.

Monroe was highly critical of Secretary of War **John Armstrong**, especially because of the failure of Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) and his arrangement for campaigns in 1814. He disagreed with Armstrong's views on the defense of **Washington** and other centers on the **Chesapeake Bay**. In August, Monroe began personally scouting out British movements near Washington, and he meddled with military preparations just before the opening shots of the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August). Not surprisingly, after that engagement and the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), Monroe accepted Madison's offer to become secretary of war; Armstrong, who had fled Washington, resigned formally on 4 September. Monroe also had command of part of the Tenth **Military District**, which was actually Brigadier General **William Winder's** command. Winder was disgruntled by this and the fact that Monroe ordered him to serve as a subordinate to Major General **Samuel Smith** of the **Maryland Mili-**

tia during the British **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). Monroe also concerned himself with the military strength of **New England** and **Louisiana Territory** and supported Major General **Andrew Jackson**'s efforts to defend **New Orleans** during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815). After the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) was ratified, he left the war department.

In 1816, Monroe succeeded Madison as president and served for two terms before retiring, more or less, from public life.

MONROE–PINKNEY TREATY (31 December 1806). Signed in England on 31 December 1806, this treaty, intended to reestablish trade conditions of the expired **Jay Treaty**, was named for the American commissioners **James Monroe** and William Pinkney, who negotiated terms with Lords Holland and Auckland of the British government. Britain retreated from its hard stance of the **Essex Decision**, giving American carriers more freedom to carry goods to and from enemy colonies in the West Indies to unblockaded ports in Europe, provided that this involved **broken voyages** and all relevant duties were paid. The treaty failed to address two key American priorities: **impressment** and compensation for trade losses suffered in relation to the *Essex* Decision. While the British cabinet approved the treaty, President **Thomas Jefferson** rejected it without taking it to Congress for consideration.

MONTREAL (RN). See *WOLFE*.

MONTREAL, LC. Founded by the French in the 1642, Montreal is located on an island in the **St. Lawrence River**, where it is joined by the Ottawa River, about 155 miles up the St. Lawrence from **Quebec** and about 180 miles from **Lake Ontario**. In 1812, shallow draft transports and **merchantmen** could reach Montreal from the sea during the high-water marks of the spring and early summer. From there, all materiel and provisions had to be sent to **UC** by **bateaux** and other small craft since rapids barred navigation at various points.

Although no dependable census exists for the period, it is estimated that the population of the town was just under 14,000. It was not fortified like Quebec, but the British improved its defenses during

the war and kept large numbers of **regulars**, backed up with mobilized **militia**, stationed there and on the frontier south of it. Montreal was a key to the invasion and capture of **LC** since it lay on the traditional campaign route of the St. Lawrence and was near the **Richelieu River** and **Lake Champlain**.

MOOSE ISLAND, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

MORAVIANTOWN, UC. This village, also known as Fairfield, was established in 1792 on the **Thames River** about 100 miles northeast of the **Detroit River** and by 1812 consisted of about 50 homes. It was founded by Moravian missionaries, and its population comprised settlers from Moravia and members of the **Delaware** nation who had moved there in the 1790s from **Indiana Territory**. American troops burned the village following their victory at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813).

MORAVIANTOWN, UC, BATTLE OF (5 October 1813). Following the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), Major General **Henry Procter**'s position at **Amherstburg, UC**, became desperate. His army was much reduced by casualties and sickness, food and ammunition supplies were low, and the native allies under **Tecumseh** were rapidly deserting him. Tecumseh wanted Procter to make a stand against the expected invasion by Major General **William Harrison**'s **Army of the Northwest**, and Procter received no approval from Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** or **Sir George Prevost** to withdraw from his post. However, this is what Procter did. On 13 September, he announced to the natives (much to their dismay) that he was retreating to **Burlington Heights** via the **Thames River** valley. Preparations for the retreat were slow, and it was not until 22 September that the first body moved out and another two days before the last of the troops left, having torched **Forts Amherstburg** and **Detroit** and various storehouses. Having to haul two large **gunboats** and countless **bateaux** delayed progress, as did the tardy arrival of various groups of natives. Things were complicated further by poor communications between Procter and his officers, among whom were

Lieutenant Colonels William Evans and Augustus Warburton and Major **Adam Muir**.

As many as 3,000 officers and men of the Harrison's army landed three miles south of Amherstburg on 27 September, while thousands more marched overland to Detroit and others remained behind to **garrison** the forts in northern **Ohio**. With five **regiments** of **Kentucky Militia** (2,500 men) under Kentucky governor **Isaac Shelby**, 1,000 mounted Kentucky riflemen under Colonel **Richard Johnson** (who had crossed over from Detroit), about 120 of the **Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** (with Brigadier General **Lewis Cass**), and 260 **Sandusky Senecas, Shawnees, and Wyandots** under **Black Hoof**, Harrison began a pursuit of Procter's force. More **regulars** might have joined the march if their supplies had caught up to them in time.

Procter's army consisted of about 880, mainly from the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, with detachments of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles**, the **10th Royal Veteran Battalion**, the **Royal Artillery**, a troop of **Provincial Light Dragoons**, and a handful of **militia** (including **Caldwell's Rangers**) and **Indian Department** men. Of the over 3,000 native warriors who had been in and around Amherstburg, fewer than 1,200 were on the march, and perhaps half of those remained to fight, including some **Creek, Delaware, Fox, Kickapoo, Ojibwa, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Sac, Shawnee, Winnebago, and Wyandot**.

After a disastrously slow and poorly managed retreat during which more than 100 regulars had been captured, Procter decided to make a stand about one mile southwest of **Moraviantown** around noon on 5 October in what was later considered a poor location. He placed a single 6-pdr **field gun** in the roadway on his left flank and then arranged the 450 or so regulars on hand in two ranks, in open order (rather than shoulder to shoulder), one about 200 yards behind the other; the area was forested, masking the Americans and putting the two ranks out of sight of each other. He sent Tecumseh's warriors to cover his right flank in a swamp.

Harrison, assisted by Captain **Oliver Perry** acting as his aide, deployed two regiments of Kentucky militia and his natives to attack Tecumseh's force and the regulars to take the British gun. Harrison placed the other three regiments in the center and deployed Johnson

to have part of his regiment **skirmish** with the British line and then to execute a **cavalry** charge with the rest.

Around 4:00 P.M., the action commenced with skirmishing. The Twenty-seventh Infantry moved forward to seize the 6-pdr, and Johnson's force charged at Tecumseh's group and the first rank of British regulars in four double-file columns. The 41st fired one volley and broke in the face of the charge. The second rank did the same. Johnson's men dismounted and fired at the recoiling British as Cass's militia marched down to the battle. In the swamp, Tecumseh's people made a brief stand but soon retreated, leaving Tecumseh lying dead behind them. The battle was over quickly, though skirmishing continued for over an hour.

Casualty counts were never verified. It was said that Harrison's force took, in all, over 600 prisoners (including Muir, Evans, and Warburton), killing at least 12 regulars and wounding 22. He reported seven Americans killed and 22 wounded. At least 16 of Tecumseh's warriors were killed.

This dramatic victory capped Harrison's long campaign. It secured southwestern **UC** for the rest of the war and reduced—but did not obliterate—the impact of the role played by native forces allied to Britain in the west. The retreat and battle were Procter's undoing. He escaped with about 50 officers and men but was harshly criticized and held fully responsible in his **court-martial**.

MORGAN, LODOWICK (?–1814). Little is known about this native of **Maryland**. He joined the **U.S. Army** in May 1808 as a second **lieutenant** in the **U.S. Regiment of Rifles** (in 1814 the **First Rifles**). He was promoted to first lieutenant in 1809, **captain** in 1811, and **major** in January 1814. It appears that his first active service came in the summer of 1814, when Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** transported him at the head of 240 of the First Rifles to the **Niagara Frontier** on 2 August, and the next day Morgan deployed his men effectively to defeat the British in the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August). He and his men then crossed to **Fort Erie**, where, on 12 August, Morgan was killed during one of the many skirmishes that marked the period of the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September).

MORRIS, CHARLES (1784–1856). A native of Connecticut, Morris joined the **USN** in 1799 as a **midshipman** and served during the

Quasi-War with France (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807 and in that capacity served in the USS *Constitution* under Captain **Isaac Hull**. His conduct in the **naval battle of the Constitution vs. HMS Guerrière** (19 August 1812) earned him promotion to **captain**, which outraged other USN officers who felt it was inappropriate for Morris to be leapfrogged over deserving **masters commandant**; their protests had no effect on the promotion.

Morris was assigned to the USS **Adams** under repair at **Washington**, and when it was ready for sea, the British presence in **Chesapeake Bay** prevented Morris from sailing until January 1814. He made a cruise across the Atlantic in which he captured 10 **merchantmen**. After his return to the **United States**, he started another cruise, but to avoid a British **squadron** during the British **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815), he anchored in the **Penobscot River** and then moved further up to **Hampden, Maine**, where on 3 September he burned the **ship** to prevent its falling into British hands. Following the war, Morris pursued an active career in the USN with numerous posts ashore and afloat.

MORRISON, JOSEPH WANTON (1783–1826). The son of an army officer, Morrison was born in **New York City** in 1783 and **commissioned** in the **British army** just after his 11th birthday. He began his active career as a **lieutenant** when he was 15 years old and saw action at Egmont-aan-Zee, Netherlands, on 2 October 1799 (the Lieutenant Colonels **Isaac Brock** and **Roger Sheaffe** fought in this battle also), where he was wounded. He was made a **captain** in 1800, a **major** of the **2/89th Regiment of Foot** in 1805, a **lieutenant colonel** in the **1st West India Regiment** in 1809, and a lieutenant colonel in the **89th Foot** in 1811, which he rejoined in England after a term in Trinidad. Morrison arrived at **Halifax** with the 89th in October 1812 and proceeded to **Quebec** in the spring.

In 1813, most of his **battalion** was stationed at **Kingston, UC**, where on 7 November 1813 Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** gave him command of the “corps of observation” that subsequently shadowed Major General **James Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). Morrison conducted the expedition with efficiency and expertly selected ground on the property

of John Crysler for the engagement, which became known as the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November 1813). For this victory, Morrison was highly praised and given a gold medal.

The 89th spent the winter at **Coteau du Lac** and participated in the **raids on the Salmon River** (14–24 February 1814). It went with Morrison to **Prescott** when he took command there in April and then on to **York** and **Niagara** in July. He led his men into action at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July) and was severely wounded. That December, he was a member of the board during the **court-martial** of Major General **Henry Procter** at **Montreal**.

Morrison remained in the army but took years to recover from his wound. He rose eventually to the rank of **brigadier general**, and after a successful campaign in Burma, he died of malaria on the voyage home and was buried at sea.

MORTAR. This short, squat piece of **artillery** was designed to fire **shells** in a high, curving trajectory, its caliber determined by the diameter of its bore.

MUD FORT. *See* FORT NECESSITY.

MUIR, ADAM CHARLES (ca. 1770–1829). A native of Scotland, Muir enlisted as a **private** soldier in the **41st Regiment of Foot** in the **British army** in 1788. He was one of few men raised from the ranks because of his capabilities when he was given a **commission** as **ensign** in 1793 and was soon after promoted to **lieutenant**. He arrived in Canada in 1799 with the **regiment** and served mainly at **Amherstburg** until the war, rising to **captain** in 1804.

He commanded British **regulars** at the **skirmishes at Brownstown** and **Maguaga** (5 and 9 August 1812) and was present at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August). His expedition to **Fort Wayne** (September 1812) failed when native allies withdrew from his force. Muir was given the local rank of **major** in August 1812 and was present at the **second battle of Frenchtown** (22 January 1813); the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May and July 1813); the **assault at Fort Stephenson** (August 1813), where he was wounded; and the **battle of Moraviantown** (October 1813), where he was captured and stood as one of the harsh critics of Major General **Henry Procter**. On his

exchange, he spent the rest of the war stationed on the **Grand River** to defend against American raids, having been **breveted** to major in early in 1814.

He resigned his commission in 1818 and settled in **LC**, where he suffered from war wounds, illness, and hardship for his remaining days.

MULCASTER, WILLIAM HOWE (1783–1837). Howe joined the **RN** as a **midshipman** before the age of 10 and immediately saw action against the French. He advanced to **lieutenant** in 1800 and in 1809 was the first lieutenant aboard Captain **Sir James Lucas Yeo's *Confiance* (1796)**, in which Lieutenant **Samuel Blyth** also served. Mulcaster was promoted to **commander** in May 1809 in HM Sloop *Emulous* and sent to **Halifax**, from where he captured a French **letter-of-marque** in 1811 and an American **privateer** in July 1812. The *Emulous* was wrecked on Sable Island on 3 August 1812; Mulcaster was cleared of blame in a **court-martial**.

He was sent to Canada with Commodore Yeo's RN detachment in 1813 and took command of HM Sloop *Royal George*. He participated in all the naval activities through that year, his most memorable accomplishment being the manner in which he attacked Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** flagship *General Pike* and kept him from boarding Yeo's badly damaged *Wolfe* during the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September 1813).

Mulcaster commanded a detachment of **Yeo's squadron** at the **skirmish at French Creek** (1–2 November) and then worked in coordination with Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison's** "corps of observation" in pursuit of the **U.S. Army division** under Major General **James Wilkinson**. Mulcaster provided transport and participated in the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November) with fire from his squadron of **gunboats**. Yeo recommended Mulcaster for "**post**" rank, which he was given in December 1813.

Mulcaster moved into the new **frigate *Princess Charlotte*** in April 1813, continuing to be Yeo's close confidante and supporter. He was severely wounded, however, in the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May 1814) as he led a party of seamen in a charge into the American fort. Although the wound in his groin was believed to be mortal, Mulcaster survived but had to be sent home as an invalid.

Mulcaster never again held a command at sea. He was made a **CB** in 1815 and a naval **aide-de-camp** to King William IV in 1836.

MUNSEE. This term referred to a language group rather than a specific aboriginal nation. The **Delaware** nation belonged to this language group.

MURRAY, JOHN (?–1832). The record shows that Murray entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1791 and by 1805 had advanced to the rank of **lieutenant colonel** of the **100th Regiment of Foot**. He went with it to **Nova Scotia** in 1805 and then **Quebec** in 1807, gaining wide experience in **LC** and **UC** and becoming the **inspecting field officer of militia** in **BNA** in 1811.

When the war broke out, Murray was in the **Montreal** area and was attached to a **battalion of Select Embodied Militia of LC** with the local rank of **colonel**, which gave him seniority of command; he was **breveted** to colonel in the British army in June 1813. Murray commanded the **Richelieu River** area from the summer of 1812 with his headquarters at **St. Jean, LC**. He was sent by Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** on the successful expedition that became known as "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August). In the autumn, he led the 100th into **Niagara, UC**, and to **Fort George** on 12 December right after the Americans under Brigadier General **George McClure** withdrew to **New York**. Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** ordered Murray on the mission that led to the successful **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 December). During the brief but vicious fight, Murray was severely wounded through his wrist. Following this engagement, he appears to have returned to **LC**, where, in June 1814, he was appointed the inspecting field officer of two **battalions** of Select Embodied Militia and, apparently, saw no further action in battle. Murray was made a **CB** in 1815 and rose to the rank of **major general** in 1819.

He died in Brighton, England.

"MURRAY'S RAID" (29 July–4 August 1813). Immediately after the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler (1812)** (3 June 1813) near **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, on the **Richelieu River**, British officials began planning how to use them in a raid on American posts; they

were renamed *Shannon* (1813) and *Broke*, respectively. Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe**, commanding at **Montreal**, ordered Colonel **John Murray** to make a raid on American posts from **Plattsburgh, New York**, northward, partly as a diversion in support of forces fighting on the **Niagara Peninsula**; it was known that a 4,000-strong **division** was encamped at **Burlington, Vermont**, under Major General **Wade Hampton**. Murray's military force consisted of 24 of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, 189 of the **13th Regiment of Foot**, 234 of the **100th Regiment of Foot**, 271 of the **103rd Foot**, and 35 each of the **Canadian Fencibles** and the 1st Battalion of **Select Embodied Militia**. Commander Thomas Everard of HM Sloop *Wasp* also joined Murray with 80 officers and seamen from his vessel and transports at **Quebec**. Commodore **Sir James Yeo** had just sent Commander **Daniel Pring** to take command at the post, and, junior in rank to Everard, he joined the expedition.

Having waited for a favorable wind, Murray set out on 29 July in the *Broke* and *Shannon* (1813), three large **gunboats**, and 47 **bateaux**. On 30 July, off **Chazy, New York**, the British captured a **sloop** and a Durham boat. The next day, they landed at Plattsburgh, **New York**, where militia Major General Benjamin Mooers gathered about 300 **New York Militia** but did not engage the British since he was waiting for more militia to arrive. At Plattsburgh, the British emptied and burned an arsenal, a **blockhouse**, some storehouses, and a large cantonment; some looting took place. Over the next three days, in detachments, the force confiscated goods and burned stores and blockhouses (looted and even raped, according to some reports) at Cumberland Head, Swanton, Vermont, Point au Roche, and Chazy Landing and as far inland as **Champlain, New York**.

On the afternoon of 2 August, Everard sailed the two sloops and one of the gunboats over to Burlington to inspect the American force there to feel out its strength. He swept his vessels inshore close enough to provoke an engagement. Newly promoted Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough** was on hand and had situated his sloop, the *President* (1812), in line with two sloops, two gunboats, and a pair of scows. They turned their guns on the British with support from a land **battery**. Having gathered the information he wanted, Everard sailed five miles south, capturing a **schooner** and three sloops before turning back north the next day to rendezvous

with the rest of the force and return to Isle-aux-Noix. In all, the British captured eight vessels, of which they kept four and burned the rest.

The raid succeeded in destroying much public property and asserting British dominance on Lake Champlain. The local populace was disrupted by the insurgence and disgruntled by the lack of action by Hampton's force.

MUSKET. The musket "**Brown Bess**" had been under development for more than two centuries by 1812. It existed in numerous different models, all consisting of lock, stock, and barrel and all operating in essentially the same way. Black powder was encased with a lead **ball** inside a paper cartridge that a soldier tore open with his teeth. He poured a small portion of the powder into a shallow priming pan adjacent to the trigger and snapped a cover down over it. The rest of the powder and the ball and the paper, as wadding, went down the barrel and through the muzzle, where it was usually rammed into place with a ramrod, stored on the underside of the barrel. The trigger was attached to the lock, which was a screw-tightened vice gripping a piece of flint, hence the terms "**flintlock**" and "**firelock**," which were often used in reference to the musket itself. The soldier pulled the lock back as far as it would go, from "half cock" to "full cock," and when ordered to fire pulled the trigger. This caused the lock to snap forward, bringing the flint into contact with the **frizzen**, the small arm extending up from the pan cover, forcing it open and uncovering the powder in the pan. Sparks caused by the flint striking the steel of the frizzen dropped into the pan, igniting the powder, the combustion of which was transferred to the powder in the base of the barrel through the vent, a small hole in the barrel. The ball was then expelled from the musket.

There was a set list of steps to firing a musket, and soldiers were drilled in the procedure until they could operate like automatons, firing four or five times in a minute, although such rates were very rare, as they exhausted ammunition and fouled the mechanisms too quickly. Since the musket was a smooth-bore weapon, unlike a **rifle**, it was inaccurate and, though deadly at 300 yards, could rarely hit any large target farther than 100 yards away; it also tended to misfire

a lot. To ensure that someone on the enemy side was hit, **infantry** fired in volleys.

The most common model of British musket was the India Pattern, first produced for the **British army** by the East India Company in the 1790s. Its barrel was 39 inches in length with a caliber of .75; the weapon weighed about 11 pounds. Similar in design though less prevalent was the Short Land Pattern musket. There were variations among the American muskets as well, but the majority of them were based on the French Charleville model. The **U.S. Army** 1795 model, produced in large numbers until 1815, had a caliber of .69. Both navies had “sea service” models for use during fighting at close quarters. Muskets were made to be fitted with **bayonets**, turning them into thrusting weapons.

MYERS, CHRISTOPHER (?–1817). Myers joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in the 69th Regiment of Foot in 1795 and had risen to a **breveted lieutenant colonel** of the 70th Foot by 1812 and was the deputy **quartermaster general** in Canada. He was sent to **Niagara, UC**, that year to serve on Major General **Isaac Brock**’s staff. He commanded the force at **Fort Erie** and missed the **battle of Queens-ton Heights** (13 October 1812). He commanded the left wing of the British force under Brigadier General **John Vincent** during the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), where he received five wounds and was taken prisoner; in June, he was made a **major** in the **100th Foot**.

Myers was **exchanged** and had recuperated from his wounds by June 1814, when he was breveted to **colonel**. He returned to the **Niagara Peninsula** during the summer and served under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**. He was present during the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August) and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and he personally commanded the 750-man force that stopped the American **raid at Cook’s Mills** (19 October). Myers remained in the army, was made a **CB** in 1815, and died at **Quebec**.

MYERS, NED (ca. 1783–1849). Ned Myers was born at **Quebec** and went to sea in **merchantmen** at an early age. In 1812, he entered the **USN** as a seaman and was assigned to the **gunboat** flotilla at **New York City**. He volunteered for service on the Great Lakes and was

in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** at **Sackets Harbor** from its beginnings. He was present during the **action at Kingston** (9–12 November 1812) and the **battles of Fort York** (27 April 1813) and **Fort George** (27 May). During Chauncey's first encounters with the British **squadron** under Commodore **James Yeo**, Myers was in the U.S. Schooner **Scourge** and was one of few survivors when a sudden storm caused the **loss of the *Hamilton* and *Scourge*** (8 August). He was picked up by the U.S. Schooner **Julia** but was soon made a British prisoner when they effected the **capture of the *Julia* and *Growler*** (10 August).

As a **prisoner of war**, Myers spent time in hulks at Quebec, **Hali-fax**, and **Bermuda**. He was suspected of being a British subject and therefore a deserter and traitor, but the charge could not be proven, and he spent most of 1814 in captivity on **Melville Island**, trying twice, unsuccessfully, to escape.

Following the war, Myers resumed his career in merchantmen, returning to the USN for two more terms. In 1843, he encountered James Fenimore Cooper, who he had known briefly in his earliest days afloat. Cooper turned Myers's life story into the "as-told-to" autobiography *Ned Myers; or, A Life Before the Mast* in 1843. Reprinted in 1989 with a brief introduction by the American historian William S. Dudley, the book is best known for its rare fore-castle view of war on the lakes.

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NANCY. This **schooner** was launched at **Detroit** in 1789 and operated in the fur trade, having a burthen of 67 tons. The British hired it to carry troops and supplies in 1812, and the following year it was nearly captured in the **St. Clair River** when it was heading for Detroit, unaware that the Americans had invaded southwestern UC following the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813). The *Nancy* returned to **Michilimackinac** and then carried furs and supplies on the upper lakes in 1814 until it was destroyed by the Americans during Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814) on the **Nottawasaga River** on 13 August 1814. Its

remains are on display at Nancy Island Historic Site at modern-day Wasaga Beach, Ontario.

NANCY, DESTRUCTION OF (13 August 1814). Following their failed **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August 1814), Captain **Arthur Sinclair** and Lieutenant Colonel **George Croghan** decided to look for the British **merchantman Nancy**; they had learned from a prisoner taken earlier in their cruise that the *Nancy* might be en route from **Georgian Bay** with reinforcements and supplies. They sailed into Georgian Bay in the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence* and the U.S. Schooners *Tigress* and *Scorpion* (1813) and south to the **Nottawasaga River**.

The *Nancy* had just left the Nottawasaga with 300 barrels of provisions when it was intercepted on 1 August by a messenger sent in a canoe from **Michilimackinac** by Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall** warning of Sinclair's **squadron**. The vessel was under the command of Lieutenant **Miller Worsley, RN**, and his party of 22 officers and seamen and nine French Canadian boatmen. Worsley steered back to the river, where he had the **schooner** hauled two miles up its course (which nearly paralleled the shore of the bay). He ordered the construction of a **blockhouse** near the vessel.

The Americans arrived on 13 August and landed a detachment that discovered the *Nancy* and its defenders. The next morning, Sinclair brought his vessels inshore to bombard the schooner and blockhouse, but intervening sand dunes made this ineffective. A detachment went ashore with two **howitzers** that were so effective in their fire that Worsley decided to abandon the blockhouse and destroy the schooner. Before this could be done, an American shell burst in the blockhouse, starting a fire that consumed it and the *Nancy*. The British, who had been aided by a party of native warriors, lost one man killed and one wounded, while the Americans suffered no casualties and confiscated only three pieces of **ordnance** and a **bateau**. They cut trees to block the river and departed, Sinclair heading for **Detroit**, leaving the *Tigress* and *Scorpion* to patrol the northern waters.

NANTICOKE CREEK, SKIRMISH AT (13 November 1813). Hearing that one of the bands of American sympathizers marauding in the vicinity were at a home near Nanticoke Creek (near **Lake Erie** about

60 miles west of **Fort Erie**), Lieutenant Colonel **Henry Boswick** approached the place early on 13 November 1813. With Boswick were two **companies** of **Norfolk County Militia**. John Boswick, the **captain** of one of these, attempted to arrest the marauders but was wounded in a brief shoot-out. One militiaman was killed, while an uncounted number of their enemy (some of whom appear to have been from the **Canadian Volunteers** led by Benajah Mallory) were killed. Of the 18 taken prisoner, four were sentenced to hang at the **Ancaster Assize** (May–June 1814).

NAPOLEON BONAPARTE (Emperor) (1769–1821). One of the most famous people in history, Napoleon's wars with Britain and its allies directly affected events leading up to and during the War of 1812. His **Continental System** of trade restrictions contributed to the formation of the American **Restrictive System**. Britain's need to **blockade** European ports and intercept French warships led to the **orders in council** and **impressment**. Britain's deep involvement in defeating Napoleon and his allies kept it from fighting the war in America full out until Napoleon abdicated on 6 April 1814. Even concerns about unrest in France following Napoleon's first exile prompted the British government to agree to terms in the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814).

NAPOLEONIC WARS (1803–1815). This period of conflict began with the failure of the **Treaty of Amiens** (1801–1803) and Britain's declaration of war against France (18 May 1803), involving their varying sets of allies. It produced some famous campaigns, battles, and historical figures, the most prominent of which included **Napoleon Bonaparte** and the **Duke of Wellington**. The opposing powers also fought on commercial terms, implementing restrictions on trade with each other, and this affected the financial prosperity of neutral nations. One of these latter nations was the **United States**, and the effects of trade restrictions led, in part, to the War of 1812.

NARCISSUS (RN). Commanded by Captain **John Lumley**, the *Narcissus* chased and captured the U.S. **brig Viper**, Lieutenant **John Henley**, between **Florida** and **New Orleans** on 17 January 1813. Later in the year, the **frigate** saw service during Admiral **Sir John**

Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign (March–September 1813), and it was back in the bay for the actions of 1814. The *Narcissus* was converted to a convict **ship** in 1823 and sold out of the service in 1837.

Type: 32-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1801, Deptford, UK. Actual armament: (1812) 26 24-pdr lg, four 9-pdr lg, eight 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 142' ½" ld × 37' 4" × 12' 6" dh, 895 tons. Crew: 254.

NARCISSUS'S PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF VIPER (17 January 1813). The U.S. brig *Viper*, Lieutenant **John Henley**, and the U.S. Brig *Enterprise*, Lieutenant **Johnston Blakeley**, sailed from **New Orleans** on 2 January 1813 for a cruise along the eastern seaboard. They became separated near the Tortugas Islands, south of **Florida**, shortly after which the *Viper* developed such a serious leak that Henley put back to New Orleans. On 17 January, HMS *Narcissus*, Captain **John Lumley**, sailed into view and began to chase the *Viper*. Henley lightened his vessel by jettisoning a boat and four guns, but after five hours the British **frigate** caught up, and, realizing that he was significantly outgunned, Henley surrendered. A **court-martial** absolved Henley of blame for the loss of his vessel.

NAUTILUS (East India Company). This 16-gun **brig**, commanded by Lieutenant **Charles Boyce**, belonged to the East India Company Bombay Marine. The U.S. Sloop *Peacock*, Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington**, captured it on 30 June 1815 in the Straits of Sunda off Java. The brig was carrying a fortune in gold and copper, but when Boyce showed Warrington documents proving that the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had been ratified, Warrington was forced to release the brig.

NAUTILUS (USN). Purchased into the **USN** in 1803 and rerigged as a **brig** in 1810, the *Nautilus*, Lieutenant **William Crane**, was captured by a British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke** off **New York City** on 17 July 1812. It was taken into the **RN** and soon after renamed the *Emulous*. This vessel should not be confused with HM Sloop *Emulous*, Commander **William Mulcaster**, which was wrecked on Sable Island on 3 August 1812.

Type: 14-gun brig. Launch: 1799, **Baltimore** as a private schoo-

ner. Actual armament: (1810) two 9-pdr lg, 12 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 87' 6" ud × 23' 8" × 9' 10" dr, 185 tons. Crew: 103.

NECESSITY, FORT. Located about 14 miles north of **Fort McArthur** and near modern-day Williamstown, **Ohio**, this **stockaded** position was constructed in the early summer of 1812 as an outpost on the road being cut to the **Maumee River** and on to **Detroit** during Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). It was also known as **Mud Fort** because of the effects of that summer's drenching rains.

NETLEY (RN). *See PRINCE REGENT* (1812).

NEW BRUNSWICK. New Brunswick was separated from **Nova Scotia** in 1783 to form a new province. Its capital was at Fredericton, and the **lieutenant governors** during the war were Major General George S. Smyth (1812–1813, 1814–1815) and Sir Thomas D. Saumarez (1813–1814). The province's population was estimated to be about 35,000. Like the other provinces, New Brunswick had **militia regiments**, but they did not see any action. Many mariners from the province, however, went to sea in **privateers** and **letters of marque**.

NEW BRUNSWICK FENCIBLE REGIMENT. *See* 104TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army).

NEW HAMPSHIRE. New Hampshire was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Concord. In 1810, its population was about 214,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—three for, two against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were John Langdon (**Republican**, 1810–1812), William Plumer (Republican, 1812–1813), and John T. Gilman (**Federalist**, 1813–1816).

NEW HAMPSHIRE MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were about 24,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **New Hampshire Militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota

was 3,500. To meet this quota, Governors John Langdon, William Plumer (from 1812), and John T. Gilman (from 1813) mobilized detachments as necessary. A small number of volunteer militiamen served on **Lake Champlain** in the spring of 1813 and were taken in the **capture of the *Eagle* (1812) and *Growler* (1812)** (3 June). **Twelve-month volunteers** from Hampshire participated in the **battle of Chateaugay** (26 October 1813).

NEW JERSEY. New Jersey was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Trenton. In 1810, its population was about 246,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—two for, four against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were Joseph Bloomfield (**Republican**, 1803–1812), Aaron Ogden (**Federalist**, 1812–1813), and William S. Pennington (Republican, 1813–1815).

NEW JERSEY MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 33,900 officers and men on the rolls of the **New Jersey Militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 5,000. To meet this quota, Governors Aaron Ogden (1812–1813) and William S. Pennington (1813–1815) mobilized detachments as needed, but they do not appear to have seen any service in action.

NEW ORLEANS (USN). This warship, made to carry at least 110 guns, was under construction at **Sackets Harbor, New York**, in 1815 for service in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** but was never launched because of the coming of peace.

Type: 110-gun **ship**. Dimensions: 212' ld × 56' × 30' dh, 3,200 tons.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA. This city is located on the banks of the Mississippi River about 100 miles north of its entry into the Gulf of Mexico. It was settled by the French in the early 1700s and passed through Spanish hands, then to the French again, and then was part of the American Louisiana Purchase in 1803. It was built on one of the few dry stretches of land in the Mississippi delta and needed formidable dikes, the levees, to keep the river out as its levels fluctuated.

In 1810, its population was about 24,000 people of many nationalities and mixtures thereof, few of which had any allegiance to the **United States**. The city was a busy commercial center, surrounded by flourishing plantations, much of its enterprise was conducted by illegal means despite efforts to invoke law and order.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, ARTILLERY DUEL AT (1 January 1815). This was the third of four major engagements below **New Orleans** between American forces under Major General **Andrew Jackson** and the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

The **reconnaissance in force** (28 December) showed Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham** that he would need heavy **artillery** placed close to the Rodriguez Canal if he hoped to overwhelm Jackson's defenses there. Proper **siege** weapons and equipment were still at sea, so with Cochrane's full support, Pakenham called for heavy naval guns to be brought up from the **fleet**. This required a Herculean effort and the determination of **RN** personnel, **Royal Marines**, and officers and men of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**; Lieutenant Colonel **Alexander Dickson** of the latter **unit** directed the preparations; and elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers** were involved. Lieutenant Colonel **John Burgoyne** of the **Corps of Royal Engineers** with the **Royal Staff Corps** and the **Royal Miners and Sappers** also played a key role, assisted by various **companies** of **infantry**. On 28 December and the three nights after it, the British built four **batteries**, one to face the river and three across the plain within 800 yards of the Rodriguez line. Little excavation could be done because the water table was so shallow, so the breastworks were built of earth (mud, mainly) piled around sugar barrels filled with earth. Planks were laid to make platforms for the guns but later proved to be unequal to that task. By the early hours of 1 January, the British had positioned 10 18-pdr **long guns** (lg) on naval carriages, two 9-pdr **field guns**, three 6-pdr field guns, four 24-pdr **cartridges**, three 5.5-inch **mortars**, two 5.5-inch **howitzers**, and the **Rocket Troop** of the **Royal Horse Artillery**.

In the interim, Jackson had pushed his men to improve his defenses. The thickness and height of the **rampart** were increased with firing steps cut into it, and the line was extended into the cypress

swamp and then turned back at a right angle for another 200 yards, thereby strengthening the previously weak left flank. The number of batteries was increased to seven, housing one 32-pdr lg, three 24-pdrs, one 18-pdr, three 12-pdrs, three 6-pdrs, and a 6-inch howitzer. Across the river, on the right, or west, bank, in a position to **enfilade** a British advance, Jackson mounted two 24-pdr lg, plus two 12-pdr lg, from the U.S. Sloop *Louisiana*, which does not appear to have participated in the action.

Packenham hoped to breach Jackson's ramparts and then attack, and so he brought up Major General **John Keane's brigade** on the left behind the guns and Major General Samuel Gibbs's brigade on the right. As with the previous action, elements of the 1/21st Regiment of Foot moved through the cypress swamp and were ready to penetrate Jackson's left. Around 9:00 A.M. on 1 January after a heavy shower of rain had stopped and a dense fog had lifted, the British guns opened and were instantly answered by Jackson's batteries. They blazed away at each other for three hours. British shots dismounted several heavy guns, and the **rockets** blew up a couple of ammunition caissons, while the Americans managed to dismount a couple of smaller guns. No breach could be made. The British breastworks and platforms were too light for the guns, which were inadequate for the task, and when they simply ran out of ammunition, Packenham called an end to the effort and withdrew his infantry; the guns were removed from their advance position that night after another gut-busting struggle.

The exercise was another profound failure for Packenham, costing at least 13 British dead and 14 wounded, and perhaps up to 70 other casualties, while Jackson had at least 11 killed and 23 wounded. As much as the failure of the engagement disheartened the British, it boosted the confidence of Jackson's army and the people of New Orleans.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, FINAL ASSAULT AT (8 January 1815). Commonly known as the battle of **New Orleans**, this was the last of four major engagements between American forces under Major General **Andrew Jackson** and the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

After the failure of the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham** decided to wait for his last reinforcements to reach his headquarters at Villeré's plantation. Major General **John Lambert** arrived on 3 January, followed, over the next couple of days, by about 2,000 officers and men of the **1/7th** and **1/43rd Regiments of Foot** and another **squadron** of the **14th Light Dragoons** (dismounted).

In the meantime, Jackson made preparations for a much-anticipated grand assault. More reinforcements arrived, and he had over 5,200 men at the Rodriguez Canal line: elements of the **Seventh** and **Forty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, the **Corps of Artillery**, a **company** of **U.S. Marines**, **USN** personnel, **Baratarians**, and **Choctaws**. His main strength, however, continued to be the more than 4,000 officers and men of the **Kentucky**, **Louisiana**, **Mississippi**, and **Tennessee Militia**. His **artillery** strength had changed little since the action on 1 January, except that a partially finished **redoubt** now stood on the extreme right by the river.

Jackson significantly increased the strength of the **batteries** on the west, or right, bank. Master Commandant **Daniel Patterson** had landed guns from the U.S. Sloop *Louisiana*, making four batteries holding 15 guns, manning them with his crew. Jackson eventually sent about 1,100 Kentucky and Louisiana Militia to cover this position, but their commander, Brigadier General Daniel Morgan, deployed them inefficiently.

Pakenham wanted to capture Patterson's batteries, which could **enfilade** any British advance, and devised a plan with Cochrane for capturing this position in advance of a grand assault on the Rodriguez line. To transport a suitable force across the river, the British deepened the canal, crossing the Villeré plantation so that more than 40 boats from the **fleet** could be brought to this point. A dike was built to direct sufficient water into the canal, and late on 7 January the levee on the river was cut to allow passage to the river. The dike, as Pakenham had feared, was too weak and collapsed, allowing only about 30 boats to reach the river despite the extraordinary efforts made by the seamen and soldiers involved.

When Pakenham awoke before dawn on 8 January and realized the boats had not set out as planned, he might have postponed the assault but didn't. Accordingly, under Lieutenant Colonel William

Thornton, part of the **1/85th Regiment of Foot**, some **Royal Marines**, and seamen, up to 760 (fewer than originally intended), embarked before dawn and, because of currents, went ashore well below their intended landing. At this point, the signal was made for the grand assault on Jackson's line.

Packenham has moved some guns back into the batteries used on 1 January, but the exact deployment of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** is uncertain. Better understood and significant to the failure of the assault was that the **1/44th Regiment of Foot** had orders to lead the attack by hurrying forward with a large number of **fascines** made of cane to fill the canal and ladders for surmounting the **rampart**. Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Mullins failed to ascertain their location the night before, however, so the delegated detachment of his regiment advanced without them and had to march back to get them. By that time, the battle had started, and in the teeth of the ferocious American fire, many of the 44th threw down their burdens and broke.

The British advanced in two columns, screened by the **rifles** of the **3/95th Regiment of Foot** and preceded by **battalions of light companies** from all the **units**; Lambert remained behind with the **1/7th** and **1/43rd Regiments of Foot** (minus their light companies) and the **dragoons** in reserve. Major General **John Keane's brigade** (the main bodies of the **1/93rd Regiment of Foot**, the **3/95th Foot**, and the **1/1st West Indies Regiment**) followed a light battalion up the river road to attack Jackson's right. Major General **Samuel Gibbs's brigade** (**1/4th**, **1/21st**, and **1/44th Regiments of Foot** and the **5th West Indies Regiment**), behind a light battalion, made for Jackson's left-most battery. Members of the **Rocket Troop** accompanied each brigade, as did some mounted dragoons. Members of the **Corps of Engineers**, the **Royal Staff Corps**, and the **Sappers and Miners** were present, as were elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**.

The British attacked at daylight, pushing back the American **skirmishers** before being met with a solid wall of fire from the American batteries and **infantry** in Jackson's line and Patterson's guns across the river. As ordered, the light battalion in front of Keane continued on the road while he marched obliquely across the field to join Gibbs, whose light battalion had veered off to probe Jackson's extreme left. The failure of Mullins's **unit** to perform the "forlorn hope" task of

surmounting the American obstacles now took effect as Keane and Gibbs's people were forced to jump down into the canal and then try to climb the ramparts. Packenham rode forward, desperate to get the 44th under control and marshal the attack, but was wounded three times and died. Gibbs held command briefly but was mortally wounded, and Keane fell with a severe wound. The **lieutenant colonels** leading the light battalions were killed, as were numerous other officers, and though some of the British penetrated the American lines at various points, they were pushed back. On the field, the red-coats broke in numbers to escape the devastating fire.

Across the river, Patterson's guns fell silent as he and his men **spiked** them before fleeing in the face of Thornton's advance. Morgan had badly mishandled his defense, which Thornton's corps fought through and routed; Thornton fell severely wounded.

Informed of Packenham's death, Lambert rode forward while his reserve advanced, but seeing the bloodbath before him, he signaled a withdrawal to preserve some order for the counterattack he feared would soon come.

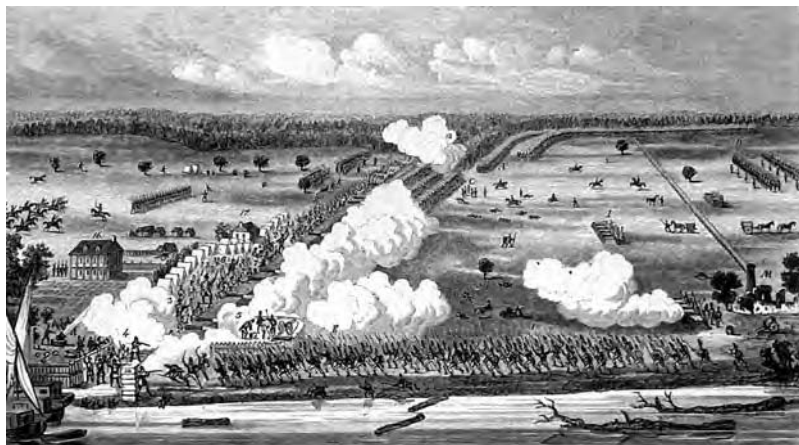
In the hour or so of battle at Rodriguez Canal, 285 British were killed, 1,186 wounded, and 484 taken prisoner; Thornton lost six dead and 76 wounded. Jackson reported six killed, seven wounded, with one dead, three wounded, and between 15 and 30 captured across the river.

Lambert consulted Cochrane and their senior officers, deciding not to renew the battle. They evacuated Patterson's battery the next day and began a torturous withdrawal to the fleet. Six months later, a **court-martial** dismissed Thomas Mullins from the service.

It had been the most stunning American victory of the war, and it cemented Andrew Jackson's place of prominence in his nation's society.

NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE AT (28 December 1814). This was the second of four major engagements below **New Orleans** between American forces under Major General **Andrew Jackson** and the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

Major General **Sir Edward Pakenham** arrived at Villeré's planta-



*The Final Assault on New Orleans, 8 January 1815.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C9906*

tion on 25 December, the rest of the military force brought by Cochrane, having reached that place the day before. He apprised the very difficult position Cochrane and Major General **John Keane** had chosen as the army's base, but rather than withdraw and seek a better place, Pakenham determined to pursue the goal of capturing New Orleans.

Among the first things he ordered was the removal of the threat posed by the U.S. Schooner *Carolina*, which had taken a position just upriver of the Villeré plantation and was sporadically bombarding the British camp. A **battery** of two 9-pdr **field guns**, four 6-pdrs, two **howitzers**, and a **mortar** was set up on the riverbank on 26 December, and early the next morning, using shot heated in a furnace built on site, this **artillery** succeeded in destroying the **schooner**. The U.S. Sloop *Louisiana*, which had also fired on the camp from a position farther upriver, was hauled out of range before it could be destroyed.

On 28 December, Pakenham executed a reconnaissance in force to probe the defensive line that Jackson had begun constructing on the opposite bank of the Rodriguez Canal about four and a half miles east of New Orleans. He sent Keane along the river road to attack Jackson's right with a **brigade** comprising the **1/4th**, **1/21st**, and **1/**

44th Regiments of Foot and the **5th West Indies Regiment**, while Major General **Samuel Gibbs** (who had arrived with Packenham) moved against Jackson's left at the head of the **1/85th**, **1/93rd**, and **3/95th Regiments of Foot** and the **1st West Indies Regiment**. A detachment of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with light mortars and part of a **Rocket Troop** of the **Royal Horse Artillery** supported Keane, while Gibbs had two 3-pdr field guns and **rockets**. A **squadron** of the **14th Light Dragoons** (dismounted) was present, as were members of the **Corps of Royal Engineers**, the **Royal Staff Corps**, and the **Royal Sappers and Miners**.

The British advanced early in the morning and were greeted with a warm fire from the *Louisiana* and the four batteries (including two 24-pdr **long guns**) in the Rodriguez line. This earthen **rampart**, just thrown up in the past few days, was manned with just over 3,000 men, elements of the **Seventh** and **Forty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, the **Corps of Artillery**, a **company** of **U.S. Marines**, **USN** personnel from the *Carolina*, some of the **Baratarians**, and a handful of **Choctaw** warriors. The main strength comprised **regiments** of **Kentucky**, **Louisiana**, **Mississippi**, and **Tennessee Militia**. Jackson held personal command of the line, which extended from the river at a right angle three-quarters of a mile, where it ended in a cypress swamp.

Keane's brigade suffered under the fire of the *Louisiana*, so Packenham ordered the 9-pdrs and 6-pdrs forward in support. Keane's column advanced up the road and then deployed in line. Without cover, a couple of the British field guns were hit, and when Packenham ordered others moved across the field to earthworks being thrown up by some of Gibbs's men, the guns bogged down in the mud. Meanwhile, Gibbs had advanced through the near edge of the cypress swamp, and the 21st was within minutes of pushing in the 200 Tennesseans holding Jackson's left when the signal sounded to withdraw. Witnessing the steadiness of Jackson's army, the strength of his batteries, and the problems suffered by his own artillery, Packenham had seen enough, and, unaware that Jackson's left had nearly collapsed, he slowly pulled his troops back, leaving several incomplete fieldworks and a very large missed opportunity behind.

Pakenham reported 16 killed, 42 wounded, and two missing between 25 and 31 December, a tally considered by most authorities as

deceptively small, whereas Jackson's generally accepted count was nine dead and nine wounded.

The exercise revealed to the British the strength of Jackson's defense and the incredible difficulty of operating on the narrow, soggy plain. Jackson realized the weakness of his left and moved to extend and strengthen it while also improving the rest of the ramparts and batteries. The Americans were encouraged by their repulse of the British, many of whom they knew to be veterans of the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814).

NEW YORK CITY. Situated at the mouth of the Hudson River, New York had a population of over 96,000 in 1810. It was an active commercial center and home to a **USN** station. Steps were taken before and during the war to improve its defenses, but the British never threatened the city with attack, preferring to impose a **blockade** of its sea routes through most of the war.

NEW YORK SIX NATIONS. Following the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), large portions of the **Six Nations** (including the **Cayuga, Mohawk, Oneida, Onondaga, Seneca, and Tuscaroras**) remained on their homelands in **New York**. Most of them preferred neutrality during the War of 1812, and through the first year the U.S. government made it clear that they were neither needed nor wanted as allies. This changed in the spring of 1813, when Major General **Henry Dearborn** and Brigadier General **John Boyd** actively sought Six Nations support. During a council at **Buffalo** on 25 July 1813, representatives of the Six Nations declared war on Britain, leaving each nation and tribe to make its own commitment to the fighting. Some warriors joined the **U.S. Army** on the **Niagara Frontier** from central New York, as did warriors of the Cayuga, Onondaga, and Seneca people living along Buffalo Creek at the eastern end of **Lake Erie**. The Seneca were sometimes identified as the **Alleghany, Cattaraugus, and Tonawandas**, so named for the creeks on which their villages stood.

In 1813, the Seneca, under Farmer's Brother, were mentioned as being at the **raid on Black Rock** (11 July), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30

December). In 1814, a large number of Seneca, Onondaga, Oneida, and probably Cayuga joined Brigadier General **Peter Porter**'s Third Brigade in Major General **Jacob Brown**'s Left Division of the U.S. Army at **Buffalo** and fought under Porter at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July).

The Tuscoraras had a 10-square-mile reserve near **Lewiston, New York**, and after this was attacked and the village destroyed in the raids of 19 and 21 December 1813, some of their warriors joined Porter's **brigade** and were at the battle of Chippawa.

NEW YORK STATE. New York was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Albany. In 1810, its population was about 959,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—three for, 11 against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governor was Daniel D. Tompkins (**Republican**, 1807–1817), a faithful supporter of President **James Madison**.

NEW YORK STATE MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 99,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **standing militia**. They were organized into **divisions** and **brigades** comprising 164 **regiments of infantry**, 12 regiments each of **cavalry** and **artillery**, and 14 regiments of **light infantry** and **rifles**. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 13,500. To meet this quota, Governor Daniel Tompkins formed "detached" regiments from the existing regiments and mobilized scores of individual "independent" **companies**. Dozens of other militia companies volunteered to serve alongside the detachments, including the Veterans Exempt, about 150 elders at Plattsburgh who formed themselves into a company in June 1812. These **units** and companies were deployed at the key points along the **Niagara** and **St. Lawrence Rivers**, at **Sackets Harbor** and **Oswego**, and other places or held in reserve. By law, militiamen were not required to cross a border under arms, and for this reason the majority of the militia refused to fight in Canada.

The militia of New York were involved in numerous actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October) and **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Ogdensburg**

(22 February), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), **Chateauguay** (26 October), the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), **Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Jacob Brown**, **Cyrenius Chapin**, **Amos Hall**, **George McClure**, **Peter Porter**, **Solomon Van Rensselaer**, **Stephen Van Rensselaer**, and **William Wadsworth**.

NEWARK, UC. *See* NIAGARA, UC.

NEWFOUNDLAND. British control of Newfoundland dated to the late 1500s. In 1812, it was termed a fishing station rather than a colony. Its government was located at St. John's, and during the war its commanding generals were Major Generals Francis Moore (1812–1814) and Charles Campbell (1814–1815). Its population in 1816 is estimated to have been just under 53,000.

NEWFOUNDLAND STATION. *See* RN STATIONS.

NIAGARA, UC. This town was located at the mouth of the **Niagara River**, adjacent to **Fort George**, and is today Niagara-on-the-Lake. During the war, it was frequently referred to as **Newark**, its name during part of the 1790s, but from 1798 it had been officially known as Niagara. In 1812, its population was about 500.

NIAGARA, UC, THE BURNING OF (10–11 December 1813). Following its defeat at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813), the **division** of the **U.S. Army** under Major General **Henry Dearborn** pulled back to **Fort George** and **Niagara**, where **pickets** were established. The British Center Division under Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** moved forward to enclose the Americans, resulting in

the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). They lifted the **blockade** when Major General **James Wilkinson** left Fort George with more than 3,000 troops early in October to begin his **campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). Command at the fort passed to Brigadier General **George McClure**, who had up to 2,000 **New York Militia** volunteers and native allies and over 800 **regulars** under Colonel **Winfield Scott**. Scott departed with most of the regulars on 13 October to join Wilkinson, and then Major General **William Harrison** arrived at the end of the month with 1,100 men but departed with most of them for **Sackett Harbor** in mid-November. McClure wanted to attack the British force at **Burlington Heights**, but the lack of regulars and his dwindling numbers (most of the **militia** terms ended on 9 December) prohibited such an expedition.

On 10 December, McClure found himself at Fort George with only 60 regulars and 40 militia besides part of Lieutenant Colonel **Cyrenius Chapin**'s corps and some **Canadian Volunteers** under Major **Joseph Willcocks**. With British patrols threatening his position, McClure decided to follow the instructions sent by Secretary of War **John Armstrong** on 4 October to destroy Niagara. He sent a warning to the residents early in the morning of 10 December, but it was not until late at night, after a snowstorm had struck, that McClure and Willcocks's men set fires that spread throughout the town, leveling it except for one house and leaving up to 400 people homeless. At the fort, they **spiked** some of the guns and pushed others into the ditch and destroyed the main **magazine**, but they did not demolish the **fortifications** themselves. On 12 December, a British detachment (350 of the **100th Regiment of Foot**, 25 of the **19th Light Dragoons**, and 14 **Niagara Provincial Light Dragoons** under **William Merritt**) commanded by Colonel **John Murray** was surprised to find the fort greatly strengthened since it had been in British hands (the previous May) and perfectly serviceable as well as seven **long guns**, a large store of shot, and tents and equipment for 1,500 men.

Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**, who had taken command in UC, ordered a sharp letter sent to McClure on 14 December inquiring whether the U.S. government or an individual had ordered the "atrocious" burning of Niagara. McClure's reply referred Drummond to officials in **Washington** and reminded him of what he termed an "atrocious," the massacre of wounded American **prisoners**

of war after the **battle of Frenchtown** (22 January). Residents in **New York** were outraged by McClure's action, fearing harsh reprisals by the British. Their fears were realized in the subsequent **capture of Fort Niagara** (18–19 December), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December), in which the **Niagara Frontier** was laid waste.

Reports of the burning of Niagara prompted Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** to order the officers under him to retaliate with similar action toward American towns on the American seaboard.

NIAGARA (1813) (USN). The vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** **squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813 and in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's** **campaign on the Upper Lakes** in 1814. It was sunk for preservation at **Erie** in 1820, raised, and rebuilt in 1913. Its replica was launched at Erie in 1990.

Type: 20-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1813, Erie, **Pennsylvania**. Actual armament: (1813) two 12-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 109' 9" ld × 29' x 9' dh, 493 tons. Crew: 165.

NIAGARA (1814A) (RN). See *LINNET*.

NIAGARA (1814B) (RN). See *ROYAL GEORGE*.

NIAGARA ESCARPMENT. This 300-mile-long ridge runs from the vicinity of Rochester, **New York**, to the Bruce Peninsula, the neck of land between **Lake Huron** and **Georgian Bay** in Ontario. Rising 300 feet at some points, it sharply divides the **Niagara Peninsula** into the lower **Lake Ontario** plain and the upper plain bordered by **Lake Erie**.

NIAGARA, FORT. Located at the mouth of the **Niagara River**, this **fort** was originally established by the French in the 1670s. By 1812, it had developed into a roughly triangular-shaped position with a **palisade** but no **bastions**. It was in very weak and crumbling condition. During 1812, the Americans built **batteries** and unroofed the two interior **redoubts** and the large stone **barracks** (the "French Castle")

for use as gun positions. The fort underwent other significant changes during the war.

NIAGARA, FORT, CAPTURE OF (18–19 December 1813). Following the withdrawal of American forces from **Fort George** and the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** established his headquarters at **St. Davids, UC**, on 16 December. Learning of the weakness of the American **garrison** at **Fort Niagara** and at its other posts along the **Niagara River** and eager to get retribution for the destruction of Niagara, Drummond ordered an assault on Fort Niagara in conjunction with a **raid at Lewiston, New York**. It was intended to occur on the night of 17 December, but bad weather prevented the **Lincoln County Militia** from bringing **bateaux** from Burlington. The next day, these were brought down to **Four Mile Creek** and then overland to a point about three miles up the Niagara River.

Captain Nathan Leonard still commanded at Fort Niagara, although an order had been written for his removal because of his alleged incompetence. He had two small **companies** of the **First U.S. Regiment of Artillery**, two large companies of the **Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, and a small company of the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. It seems likely that some **New York Militia** were on duty as well. There had been rumors of the British mission, and the **garrison** was ordered to be ready for instant action. Nevertheless, Leonard spent the night at his home two miles away.

Around 10:00 P.M. on 18 December, Colonel **John Murray** led 560 **regulars** (**1/1st**, **1/41st**, and **100th Regiments of Foot** and some **Royal Regiment of Artillery**) across the river in two waves, piloted by volunteers from the Lincoln Militia. **John Norton** served as a volunteer, although no native warriors were part of the expedition. They landed above **Youngstown**, where a detachment of 20 men went forward to overtake the guard known to be in that village. The advance used their **bayonets** to kill or wound the sentries and then went on to the fort. Murray had split his force into groups, some to escalate a wall, others to take a **bastion**, while the rest stormed the main gate. The advance party got through the gate with barely a challenge and used their bayonets to perfection again. The main body then let out a cheer (contrary to an order for silence) and rushed through the gate.

The garrison had scant moments to take up arms and offer resistance, but it was futile, as the British swarmed through the fort and quickly secured it.

About 20 of the Americans escaped, while 65 of them were killed, 16 wounded, and 344 captured. The British lost six dead and five wounded. A vast supply of materiel was captured in the fort, including 4,000 stands of arms; 7,150 pairs of shoes; ammunition; uniforms for the **1/8th** and **1/49th Regiments of Foot** which had been captured; and thousands of blankets and tents. The fort was in dilapidated condition, requiring much improvement. The British held the post for the rest of the war, although the uncomfortable state of the place made it very unpopular among the troops.

NIAGARA FRONTIER. This term refers to the **New York** side of the **Niagara River** from **Buffalo** to **Fort Niagara**.

NIAGARA FRONTIER GUIDES. *See* NIAGARA PROVINCIAL LIGHT DRAGOONS, UC.

NIAGARA PENINSULA. This neck of land in Ontario (UC), is bordered on the north by **Lake Ontario**, on the south by **Lake Erie**, and on the east by the **Niagara River**. The **Niagara Escarpment** divides it, along an east–west line, into the lower plain adjacent to Lake Ontario and the upper plain stretching to Lake Erie.

NIAGARA PROVINCIAL LIGHT DRAGOONS, UC. This was one of two **troops** of **Provincial Light Dragoons** raised in the spring of 1813 in association with the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia**. Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** ordered **William Merritt** to raise the Niagara troop as its **captain**, and it was subsequently involved in the **battles of Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June) and **Beaver Dams** (24 June); the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October); the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December); and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December) and in 1814 at **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), and the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August). On 24 October 1814, this troop was reorganized as the **Niagara Frontier Guides**. *See also* UPPER CANADA MILITIA.

NIAGARA RIVER. This 35-mile-long waterway runs north, emptying **Lake Erie** into **Lake Ontario** and dropping 326 feet in elevation, the sharpest descent being at Niagara Falls.

NICHOLLS, EDWARD (1779–1865). This officer was born in Ireland and joined the **Royal Marines** as a **lieutenant** in 1795, received notice for good conduct in battle in 1803, and rose to **captain** in 1808. His abilities prompted Rear Admiral Sir Sidney Smith to describe him as “an intelligent and enterprising officer,” while an American once wrote that he was “an impatient, blustering Irishman . . . and apparently brave and cruel.”

By 1814, Nicholls had risen to **major** in the 3rd Battalion of Royal Marines and went with it to **Bermuda** in July 1814 to serve under Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**. The **admiral** selected Nicholls to lead an independent mission (with 112 officers and men), with the local rank of **lieutenant colonel**, to the northwest coast of **Florida**; a **squadron** of two **ship-sloops** and two **brig-sloops** under Captain **William Percy** would support his efforts.

Nicholls stopped at Havana to obtain Spanish permission to operate in **Florida** but, failing this, went anyway and landed at the mouth of the **Apalachicola River** (60 miles southwest of modern-day Tallahassee, **Florida**) on 10 August 1814. Here he found about 1,500 **Creeks**, among whom were warriors willing to be Britain’s allies, but they were destitute because of the effects of the **Creek War** (1813–1814). Nicholls began aggressively recruiting Creek warriors and black slaves from the vicinity, outfitting them and training them rigorously; eventually, he had a force of 500 Creeks and 100 black slaves.

Learning that the Spanish commandant at **Pensacola** (115 miles west) wanted the British to help defend his post from the Americans, Nicholls went there on 14 August and made it his headquarters. He took complete control of Pensacola and angered the locals with his forceful restrictions and failure to keep all his new troops under control. Hoping to enlist the pirates of **Barataria** to the British cause, Nicholls and Percy sent Commander **William Lockyer** to parley with **Jean Lafitte**; in the end, the mission failed.

Early in September, Nicholls and Percy agreed that capturing the American-held **Fort Bowyer** at Mobile Bay would leave the anchor-

age open for Cochrane's **fleet** as well as winning more support from the Creeks and possibly the **Choctaw** and **Chickasaw**. This resulted, however, in the unsuccessful **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September), which drew the attention of Major General **Andrew Jackson**, who conducted the **capture of Pensacola** (7 November). Nicholls lost sight in his right eye from a splinter wound during the affair at Fort Bowyer, and though he was present when Jackson took Pensacola, his effectiveness seems to have been reduced, although he was present during Cochrane's expedition against New Orleans.

He remained at the fort he had built at Prospect Bluff on the Apalachicola River, where thousands of Creeks and slaves had gathered. After the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814), he championed the rights of the Creeks to regain land lost during the Creek War but to no avail.

Nicholls's rank as lieutenant colonel appears to have been confirmed, as he held that rank in 1823, when he was made the commandant of Ascension Island, in the south Atlantic Ocean, then a depot for the **RN** squadron off West Africa. He held the post until replaced in 1828. One source shows that he was later knighted and rose to the rank of **general**.

NICHOLSON, NATHANIEL D. (?–1822). He joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1808 and advanced to **lieutenant** the following year. He was first lieutenant of the U.S. Sloop *Siren* during its cruise in 1814, when its commander, Master Commandant George Parker, died, putting Nicholson in command. On 12 July 1814, HMS *Medway*, Captain **Augustus Brine**, chased and captured the *Siren*.

Nicholson remained in the navy for the rest of his life but did not earn promotion beyond lieutenant.

NILES' WEEKLY REGISTER. Hezekiah Niles launched this newspaper in **Baltimore** in September 1811. It supported the **Republican** administration of President **James Madison** and harshly criticized British trade and **impressment** policies. The newspaper advocated war and predicted early success for the **United States**. Like most newspapers of the period, Niles made wide use of military and naval dispatches, congressional publications, and articles copied from other newspapers, including those in Canada and Britain. In addition,

he interviewed officers and men who had come in contact with the enemy. Niles remained a firm government supporter throughout the war, and the newspaper continued in print until 1849.

19TH REGIMENT OF (LIGHT) DRAGOONS (British army).

Raised in India in 1781, this **regiment** was sent from England and arrived at **Quebec** in May 1813. It was deployed in detachments, and elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1813, the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February), **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of "Niagara" in 1815.

Among its most active officers during the war were William F. Arnold and John B. O'Neil.

NINETEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. It joined Brigadier General **William Harrison's Army of the Northwest** that fall and marched in its left wing under Brigadier General **James Winchester**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Kentucky, Ohio, and the Territories of Mississippi, Indiana, Illinois, and Missouri**. In March 1814, it was consolidated with the **Seventeenth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh Regiments of Infantry** to form new Seventeenth and Nineteenth Regiments.

Elements of the regiment were present at these actions: 1813, Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), and **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December); 1814, **Port Dover** (14–16 May), Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **as-**

sault on Fort Erie (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **John Campbell, Nathan Heald, Thomas Jesup, John Miller, and Thomas Van Horne.**

9TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1685, this **unit** was known as the East Norfolk Regiment. After service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/91st arrived at **Montreal** in August 1814 and was sent to **garrison Kingston** but did not see any action.

NINTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies, and it recruited originally in **Massachusetts** and **Vermont** and later in **New Hampshire.**

Elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1813, **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November); 1814, Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were Thomas Aspinwall and Henry Leavenworth.

90TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First recruited in Scotland in 1794, this **unit** was known as the Perthshire Volunteers. After eight years of service in the West Indies, the 1/90th was sent to Canada, arriving at **Quebec** in June 1814. It was stationed at **Montreal** and then sent to the **Niagara Peninsula** late in the year but did not see any action in the war.

98TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** arrived at **Halifax** late in 1813 and was part of the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

95TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Raised as an experimental corps in 1800, this famous **unit** was known as the Rifle Regiment. After service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 3/95th was sent to Jamaica in 1814 to be part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were **Sidney Beckwith** and Harry G. Smith.

99TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Known as the Prince of Wales's Tipperary Regiment, this **unit** was stationed in **Nova Scotia** and **New Brunswick** during the war and was not involved in any fighting.

97TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was first raised in 1798 and was known as the Queen's Own Germans, although British recruits had replaced most of the original enlistments by 1812. The **regiment** arrived at **Quebec** from Ireland in the summer of 1814. Most of it was sent to the **Niagara Peninsula** and was present during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) but does not appear to have seen any action.

Among its noteworthy officers was William McCarthy.

93RD REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in Scotland in 1799, the 1/93rd was sent from England in 1814 to be part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present at the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January). The 2/93rd was stationed in **Newfoundland** in 1814.

Noteworthy officers with the 1/93rd included Andrew Creagh and Robert Dale.

NIPISSING. This nation lived along the Ottawa River and around Lake Nipissing near **Georgian Bay**. Some were also settled at **Akwesasne** and other points near the **St. Lawrence River**. Fully involved in the fur trade, they allied themselves with the British during the war and in 1813 were present at the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the skirmish at the **Ball property** (11 July), and the **battle of Chateauguay** (26 October).

NONIMPORTATION ACT (18 April 1806). The **U.S. Congress** passed this act in retaliation to British limits on American trade abroad. It called for the nonimportation from Britain of a list of products that could be manufactured in the **United States** or acquired from another nation. It was put into effect briefly in November and December 1806 and then suspended until December 1807, after which it remained active though overshadowed by other laws in the **Restrictive System**, such as the **Embargo Act** of 1807 and the **Non-intercourse Act** of 1809.

NONINTERCOURSE ACT (1 March 1809). As a replacement for the **Embargo Act** of December 1807, this legislation of the **U.S. Congress** forbade American trade with Britain, France, and their colonies, although it promised to remove such limits with the nation that would suspend its current trade restrictions (i.e., Britain's **orders in council** and France's **Berlin** and **Milan Decrees**). Negotiations between Britain that resulted in the **Erskine Agreement** nearly achieved this intent, but the British cabinet rejected the plan. Since the law was known to be largely unenforceable, it was replaced with **Macon's Bill No. 2** in May 1810. In the wake of events revolving around the **Cadore letter**, the act was invoked once more against Britain only on 2 March 1811 but with revisions that prohibited British imports while allowing export to Britain, making it more a law of nonimportation than of nonintercourse.

NONINTERCOURSE ACT (4 February 1815). Passed by the **U.S. Congress** just before notice of the signing of the **Treaty of Ghent**

(24 December 1814) reached the **United States**, this legislation was intended to stop the illegal **license trade** with Britain and its colonies. It might have been more suitably titled an enemy trade act.

NONSUCH (USN). Stationed at Charleston, **South Carolina**, the **schooner** barely escaped a British **frigate** in a chase on 12–13 June 1814 by jettisoning 11 of its guns and evading the British fire. In 1819, Captain **Oliver Perry** was aboard the *Nonsuch* when he died. The schooner was broken up in 1819.

Type: 14-gun schooner. Launch: 1812, **Baltimore** as a **privateer**. Standard armament: one 6-pdr lg, 12 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 86' bp × 21' × 9' dh, 148 tons. Crew: 61.

NORFOLK COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Norfolk County was located on **Lake Erie** north of **Long Point** and was part of the London District of **UC**. **Flank companies** were formed from its two **infantry regiments** in 1812, as was one **rifle company**. Elements of the militia were present at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August 1812) and on the upper **Niagara River** on 28 November 1812 during Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion of UC**. They were posted at various points or on patrol in search of parties of marauding American sympathizers and were involved in the **skirmishes at Nanticoke Creek** (13 November 1813), **McCrea's Farm** (15 December 1813), and **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November 1814). Two companies fought at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July 1814).

Among its prominent officers during the war were John Boswick, Henry Medcalf, and Thomas Talbot.

NORFOLK, VIRGINIA. This town was originally laid out in 1682 on the Elizabeth River near **Hampton Roads** at the southern end of **Chesapeake Bay**. In 1812, Fort Norfolk stood at the river's edge, its earthen **ramparts** lacking **bastions** or guns. The **USN** station at **Gosport** was across the river.

NORTH AMERICA STATION. See RN STATIONS.

NORTH CAROLINA. North Carolina was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Raleigh. In 1810, its population was about

556,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—six for, three against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governors were William Hawkins (**Republican**, 1811–1814) and William Miller (Republican, 1814–1817).

NORTH CAROLINA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 51,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **North Carolina Militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 7,000. To meet this quota, the governors detached **companies** and **units** as required or during emergencies such as the **raid at the Ocracoke Inlet** (12–16 July 1813). The militia did not see any action.

NORTH POINT, BATTLE OF. *See* BALTIMORE, ATTACK ON (12–15 September 1814).

NORTH WEST COMPANY. Formed in the 1780s by merchants at **Montreal**, the North West Company operated in the area north and west of the Great Lakes and was in direct competition with the Hudson's Bay Company.

NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Northumberland County was located north of Lake Simcoe and was part of the Newcastle District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812.

NORTHWEST TERRITORY. Also referred to as the Old Northwest, this tract of land was officially named the "Territory Northwest of the River Ohio" by an ordinance of the **U.S. Congress** in 1787. It originally included the modern-day states of **Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois**, and parts of **Mississippi, Wisconsin**, and Minnesota but during the war comprised mainly the latter places.

NORTON, JOHN (1770–ca. 1830). Norton's father was a Cherokee, his mother a Scot, and he was born in Scotland. He arrived in Canada as a foot soldier in the mid-1780s and went on to be a schoolteacher,

a fur trader, an officer in the **British Indian Department**, and a missionary, although he was best known as a chief of the **Grand River Six Nations**, the protégé and adopted nephew of Joseph Brant with the name Teyoninhokarawen. This latter position brought him into conflict with William Claus of the Indian Department and other officials.

Inspired by the leadership of Major General **Isaac Brock**, Norton encouraged the Grand River people to ally themselves with the British during the war. Although they wavered in their support, warriors from the Grand, led by Norton, fought for the British in numerous actions. Norton played a critical role during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) by using a party of only 80 men to help pin down the American forces after their initial success in the morning. For this role, he was made Captain of the Confederate Indians by Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe**, a rank that was confirmed by **Sir George Prevost** when he met with Norton at **Quebec** in 1814.

Although the commitment of the Grand River warriors continued to fluctuate, Norton saw action with his men in 1813 at **Fort George** (27 May) and during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), including a skirmish on the **Ball property** (8 July). Norton served as a volunteer at the **capture of Fort Niagara** (10–11 December).

In 1814, he led warriors at the **battle of Chippewa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Following the war, he married a woman more than 30 years his junior, visited Britain briefly, and then returned to settle on the Grand River. After killing, in a duel, a man whom he suspected of having seduced his wife, Norton left the Grand for the western regions. The events of his last days are not recorded.

NOTTAWASAGA RIVER. This river flows northward into **Georgian Bay** at modern-day Wasaga Beach, Ontario. It was part of the route taken by fur traders and supply trains from **York, UC**, to the bay.

NOVA SCOTIA. Nova Scotia became a British colony in 1763 with its capital at **Halifax**. During the war, the **lieutenant governor** was Lieutenant General **Sir John Sherbrooke**. The province's population in 1817 was about 81,350. Like the other provinces, Nova Scotia



*John Norton, 1770–ca. 1830. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C123841*

had **militia regiments**, but they did not see any action. Many mariners from the province, however, went to sea in **privateers** and **letters of marque**.

NOVA SCOTIA FENCIBLES (British army). This **regiment** was raised in 1803. It was sent to **Quebec** early in 1814 and **garrisoned** at **Kingston**. Its most notable officers during the war were Richard E. Armstrong and **Andrew Gray**.

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OCRACOCK INLET, RAID AT THE (12–16 July 1813). The Ocracoke Inlet is a channel through the Outer Banks, the barrier islands off the coast of **North Carolina**, into Pamlico Sound. By 1812, it was a heavily traveled route for **merchantmen**, and after the British enforced their **blockade** during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813), goods were shipped from places such as **Norfolk, Virginia**, through the Ocracoke Inlet.

Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** sailed from **Chesapeake Bay** on 2 July in HMS *Sceptre*, several troopships, and other warships to investigate the situation at Ocracoke; on board were 500 officers and men of the **102nd Regiment of Foot** under Colonel **Sir Thomas Beckwith**. A number of American vessels were captured en route before the force arrived off Ocracoke on 12 July. The next day, Cockburn sent boats to land at the village of Ocracoke (on the north of the inlet) and Portsmouth (on the south of the inlet). There they engaged the **letter of marque** *Atlas* and the **privateer** *Anaconda*, both heavily armed and manned, and captured them. After confiscating stores and livestock at these places and making an inspection of Pamlico Sound, Cockburn departed on 16 July and reached Warren in Chesapeake Bay three days later. He strongly expressed the need to **blockade** the inlet.

ODELLTOWN, LC. This small village was settled by United Empire Loyalists following the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). It was located near the **Richelieu River** just south of **Lacolle** and within five miles of **Champlain, New York**.

ODELLTOWN, LC, SKIRMISH AT (20 September 1813). The original orders that Major General **Wade Hampton** received about acting in coordination with Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813) stated that he was to invade LC along the **Richelieu River**. He arrived with most of his **division** at **Champlain, New York**, on 19 September with this intention, having heard that **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, was extremely well defended. The next morning, Hampton sent Major Josiah Snelling with a detachment of his **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and Major William Hamilton with a detachment of the **Tenth Infantry** to assault the British post at **Odelltown** and another nearby post.

Snelling reached Odelltown and captured a **picket** around dawn but was then warmly opposed by a **company of Frontier Light Infantry** under Captain Joseph Mailloux and some native allies posted behind an **abatis**. After an hour or so, two companies of the 4th Battalion of **Select Embodied Militia** arrived, soon followed by a body of **Canadian Voltigeurs** under Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry**. By this time, Hamilton had joined Snelling, and as the bulk of Hampton's **division** advanced, the British withdrew.

Neither side mentioned casualties, although it is said that the natives killed one American and wounded several others later that night. The skirmish and other reports he received prompted Hampton to abandon the Richelieu route to **Montreal** and head for the **Chateauguay River in New York**.

ODELLTOWN, LC, SKIRMISH AT (28 June 1814). This was just one in a series of skirmishes that took place on the border between **New York** and LC during the spring and summer of 1814. Major General **George Izard** sent detachments of **light infantry** from his **division** of the Ninth Military District at **Plattsburgh** to guard the border, and they came into contact with elements of the **units** posted by the British along the **Richelieu River**. Prominent in the skirmishes was Lieutenant Colonel **Benjamin Forsyth**, whose men of the **First U.S. Rifle Regiment** had earned a reputation for effectiveness in the field and a propensity for looting and other depredations.

Forsyth's men were stationed near the border from 17 June and raided **Odelltown, LC**, briefly a week later, taking and inflicting cas-

ualties on the British. On 28 June, they returned with the intention of drawing the British into an ambush, but Forsyth, who had developed the habit of imprudently exposing himself to enemy fire, was shot and killed by a native warrior. The raid failed, and the Americans took Forsyth's body to **Champlain, New York**, for burial.

In another raid on 10 August, the First Rifles got their revenge by mortally wounding Captain Joseph Mallioux of the **Frontier Light Infantry**. This unit was involved in most of these actions, and, although the documentary evidence is slim, it is likely that elements of the **13th Regiment of Foot**, the **Canadian Fencibles**, **Canadian Voltigeurs**, and the **Selected Embodied Militia** of LC and that province's **sedentary militia** were also involved. Native warriors involved were probably from the **Seven Nations** and **Abenaki**.

OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK. This village was located at the mouth of the Oswegatchie River about 70 miles down the **St. Lawrence River** and opposite **Prescott, UC**. It first developed as the French post of **La Presentation** across the Oswegatchie from the village. Like Prescott, it was an important transshipment point in 1812 for commerce on the St. Lawrence River. The Americans built several **batteries** on the shore and **garrisoned** the village in 1812. The village was left undefended for the balance of the war after the British attacked it on 22 February 1813.

OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK, ATTACK ON (4 October 1812).

The first British attack was a quickly aborted affair. Contrary to Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost**'s nonaggression policy, Colonel **Robert Lethbridge** organized a boat attack comprising about 125 men of the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment** and 600 of the **Glengarry, Dundas, and Grenville Counties Militia**, covered by the **battery at Prescott**. Lethbridge's intent was to stop American interference with British supply convoys. Brigadier General **Jacob Brown, New York Militia**, commanded about 1,200 men, mainly **militia**, at **Ogdensburg**, and the fire of his battery quickly disrupted the British boats, which, having suffered at least three dead and nine wounded, turned back without touching the American shore. Prevost recalled Lethbridge to **Montreal** when he heard of the fiasco.

OGDENSBURG, NEW YORK, ATTACK ON (22 February 1813).

The second British attack succeeded in removing **Ogdensburg** as a threat to British traffic on the **St. Lawrence River**.

Colonel **Thomas Pearson**, who commanded across the river at **Prescott, UC**, had frequently recommended an attack on Ogdensburg but was refused permission from Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost**. When Prevost arrived at Prescott on 21 February 1813 in transit for **York, UC**, Pearson detailed the U.S. **raid on Brockville** (7 February) and the possibility that the Americans would try to capture Prevost on his way to **Kingston**. Prevost gave permission to Major **George Macdonell**, who was replacing Pearson at Prescott, to cover his departure for Kingston with a demonstration on the ice of the St. Lawrence River on 22 February. Shortly after leaving, Prevost sent a note to Macdonell telling him to avoid any action that might provoke American retaliation.

By the time Prevost's note arrived, Macdonell had already launched a two-pronged attack on Ogdensburg. The right column, composed of about 50 men of the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment** and 70 **militia** under Captain John Jenkins, attacked the west side of the village beginning with **Fort La Presentation** on the west bank of the Oswegatchie River. Simultaneously, the left column, composed of about 150 of the **1/8th Regiment of Foot**, 30 of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiment**, a few men of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, and about 230 more militia (from **Glengarry, Stormont, Dundas, Grenville, and Leeds Counties**), under Macdonell, attacked the east side.

The American force defending Ogdensburg consisted of Major **Benjamin Forsyth's company** of the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** and four small companies of **New York Militia**. Macdonell's column captured **Fort Oswegatchie** and several other **batteries** on the river relatively quickly, while Jenkins's column ran into stiff opposition at Fort La Presentation, where Forsyth's men were, and suffered heavy casualties. Jenkins's force withdrew and offered Forsyth terms for surrender as Macdonnell approached, in which interval the American commander gathered his force and retreated. The British occupied the village; burned two large **barracks**, two **merchantmen**, and two **gunboats**; destroyed the batteries; and captured or destroyed **ordnance, muskets**, ammunition, and stores. The British lost seven

killed and 48 wounded, while the Americans suffered about five killed, 15 wounded, and 75 captured.

Although Forsyth petitioned his superiors for the men needed to recapture Ogdensburg, this was not allowed, and the village was left ungarrisoned for the balance of the war. This allowed British supply convoys to pass this stretch of the river with impunity.

OHIO. Originally part of the **Northwest Territory**, Ohio became a state in 1803 with its capital at Chillicothe. In 1810, its population was about 231,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—18 for, two against; U.S. Senate—one for, one against. During the war years, its governors were Return J. Meigs Jr. (**Republican**, 1810–1814), Othneil Looker (Republican, 1814), and Thomas Worthington (Republican, 1814–1818).

OHIO (USN). Part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** **squadron**, this vessel was not present at the **battle of Put-in-Bay**. The **capture of the Ohio and Somers** took place at **Fort Erie** on 12 August 1814. It was renamed the *Sauk* by the British, laid up in 1817, and left to decay.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1810, Cleveland, **Ohio**. Actual armament: (1814) one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 59' bp × 18' 11" × 7' 2" dh, 87 tons. Crew: 35.

OHIO AND SOMERS, CAPTURE OF THE (12 August 1814). The USN Schooners *Ohio*, *Porcupine*, and *Somers* were detached by Captain **Arthur Sinclair** from his **Lake Erie squadron** to support Major General **Jacob Brown's** **campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814). During the opening phase of Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond's** **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), these vessels bombarded the British **battery** located north of the **fort**.

As early as 2 August, Drummond had proposed the capture of these vessels, and during the second week of August, Commander **Alexander Dobbs**, with a party of his **RN** officers and seamen from the vessels **blockaded** at **Niagara** by Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron**, moved his gig overland to **Chippawa** and on 12 August carried it and five **bateaux** overland to a point several miles west of

Fort Erie. After dark, they rowed down the shore and around 11:00 captured the *Ohio* (Lieutenant **Augustus Conckling**) and *Somers* (Sailing Master Galiel Darling) in a quick but bloody hand-to-hand fight. They cut the cables and drifted downstream, narrowly missing a chance to capture the *Porcupine*. Neither that vessel nor the batteries at Fort Erie or **Black Rock** fired on the captured vessels, which Dobbs sailed to **Chippawa Creek**.

Drummond was very pleased with this result. Dobbs lost two killed, with four wounded, while the Americans lost one killed and nine wounded. Dobbs captured about 70 men.

OHIO MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 35,000 officers and men in the **standing militia**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militia in May 1812, **Ohio's** quota was 5,000. At the time, Ohio's militia was divided into four **divisions** comprising 15 **brigades** in all and up to 45 **regiments**, each of which had **artillery, cavalry, rifle, and light infantry** elements. A fifth division was created during the war.

Under the leadership of Governor Return J. Meigs, the Ohio Militia responded enthusiastically to calls for mobilization. About 1,500 men joined the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Hull** in the spring of 1812, and from that summer through 1813, thousands more served in the same army under Major General **William Harrison**. As their service periods ended, they were replaced with other willing volunteers. The Ohio Militia participated in such actions as the following: 1812, **Brownstown** (5 August), **Maquaga** (9 August), and **Detroit** (16 August); 1813, **Fort Meigs** (May, July); 1814, **Sinclair's expedition to the upper lakes** (July–September) and **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November).

Among its most prominent officers were **Lewis Cass, James Findlay, Duncan McArthur, and Thomas Van Horne**.

OJIBWA. This nation was closely tied to the **Chippewa** and occasionally referred to by that name; the **Mississauga** were similarly related to the Ojibwa. They lived in southern UC at the settlements near **Lake Huron, the Thames and Grand Rivers, York, and the Bay of Quinte** and in **Michigan Territory**. They allied themselves with the

British and were present during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October 1813), at least one **skirmish at the Ball property** (8 July), the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July), the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August), and the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October).

OKA. *See* KANESTAKE.

“OLD IRONSIDES.” *See* CONSTITUTION.

OLD NORTHWEST. *See* NORTHWEST TERRITORY.

100TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was first raised in northern Ireland in 1804 and in 1813 became known as the Prince Regent’s County of Dublin Regiment. It was sent to **Nova Scotia** in 1805 and **Quebec** in 1807 and then had tours of duty in **UC**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at various actions, including the following: 1813, **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler (1812)** (3 June), **Cranberry Creek** (19 July), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **“Murray’s Raid”** (29 July–4 August), the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), and **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December); 1814, **Chippawa** (5 July), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and **Cook’s Mills** (19 October). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its prominent officers during the war were George Hay, the Marquis of Tweeddale, **John Murray**, and **Christopher Myers**.

104TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was raised in 1803 in **New Brunswick** and **LC** for domestic service and became known as the New Brunswick Fencible Regiment. A detachment marched overland to **Quebec** in the winter of 1813, to be joined later by the rest of the **regiment**, and then on to **UC**. Among the actions in which it was involved were the following: 1813, **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), and the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October); 1814, **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July), **Conjocta Creek** (3 August), the **siege of**

Fort Erie (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), and the action at **Cook’s Mills** (19 October). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its prominent officers during the war were **William Drummond**, **John Le Couteur**, Richard Leonard, and Robert R. Loring.

102ND REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** was formed in 1789 with men from the **Royal Marines** stationed in Australia and was originally known as the New South Wales Corps. It grew through the enlistment of convicts and was officered by men who eventually took control of the rum trade in Australia, earning their **unit** the name of the “Rum Corps.” In 1808, they were involved in the Rum Rebellion, during which they briefly detained the governor, Captain William Bligh (of *Bounty* fame). In 1810, the regiment was renamed the 102nd Foot and sent to Guernsey, where it was re-constituted and put under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Charles Napier.

In the spring of 1813, the unit was sent under Colonel **Sir Thomas Beckwith** to join Admiral **Sir John Warren’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813) and participated in the actions at **Craney Island** (22 June), **Hampton** (25–26 June), and **Ocracoke** (12–16 July). They later went to Halifax and were part of the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

Among its noteworthy officers were Charles J. Napier and Gustavus Rochefort.

103RD REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** was formed in Ireland in 1806 and was sent from there to **Quebec** in July 1812. It remained in **LC** and participated in “**Murray’s Raid**” (29 July–4 August 1813) and the **raids on the Salmon River** (14–24 February 1814). The regiment, which was said to have contained a core of hardened criminals, earned a reputation for bad conduct during its time in **LC**. In the spring of 1814, it was transported to the **Niagara Peninsula**. There it saw action at **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July) and during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were **John Harvey**, James B. Irwin, **Hercules Scott**, and William Smelt.

ONEIDA. *See* GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SIX NATIONS.

ONEIDA (USN). The USN built this vessel at **Oswego, New York**, in 1808–1809 to enforce the trade limitations of the **Embargo Act** of 1807. It was **commissioned** in 1810 (the first USN vessel on the lakes) to Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey**, who stationed the **brig** at **Sackets Harbor**. The vessel saw continuous service during the war as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario**. It was laid up in 1815, sold as a **merchantman** in 1825, and was out of service in 1837.

Type: 14-gun brig. Launch: 1809, Oswego, New York. Actual armament: (1813) 16 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 85' 6" gd x 23' x 8" dh, 262 tons. Crew: 146.

ONONDAGA. *See* GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SIX NATIONS.

ONTARIO (1809) (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1812. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 2-gun schooner. Launch: 1809, **Lewiston, New York**, as a **merchantman**. Actual armament: one 32-pdr lg, one 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 81 tons. Crew: 29.

ONTARIO (1813) (USN). This was one of three **ship-sloops** ordered by the **U.S. Congress** in January 1813. Although ready for sea in the spring of 1814, it was **blockaded** by the British until the war ended.

Type: 18-gun ship-sloop. Launch: 1813, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: two 18-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 117' 11" gd x 31' 6" x 14' 6" dh, 509 tons. Crew: 150.

ONTARIO, FORT. This position was originally developed by the British in the 1750s and is often referred to as Fort Oswego, although that name had been given to a different fort built at the same time. In

May 1814, Fort Ontario consisted only of deep ditches and high earthen **ramparts** on three sides of a large square with some **bar-racks** within, its rear protected only by a **breastwork**. Most of its **picketing** had rotted, and there were two small, exterior **batteries** that had lately been repaired, their five guns also given new carriages.

ONTARIO, LAKE. The smallest of the Great Lakes, Lake Ontario is 243 feet above sea level. It receives **Lake Erie's** water via the **Niagara River** and drains down the **St. Lawrence River** into the Gulf of St. Lawrence. It 1812, it was linked from **Oswego, New York**, by rivers, lakes, and a canal to **New York City**.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL (1807–1812). The term “order in council” refers to an executive order issued by the cabinet of the British government in the name of the Crown and has the same impact as a piece of legislation tabled, debated, and voted into law in Parliament.

Following the failure of the **Treaty of Amiens** (1801–1803), the British issued a series of statements concerning various restrictions on trade. The declaration on 16 May 1806 was the first relevant order in council; known as the **Fox Blockade** after Prime Minister Charles J. Fox, it posed a limited **blockade** of the coastline on the North Sea and English Channel. In answer to **Napoleon's Berlin Decree** of November 1806, Britain announced the order of 7 January 1807, which banned neutral trade from any port controlled by an enemy of Britain. The three orders of 11 November 1807 also countered the Berlin Decree and increased restrictions by requiring all neutral shipping to be inspected at British ports or stopped and inspected on the high seas. Any neutral intending to trade with France or its allies had to pay duties and buy licences. Because of its large and effective navy, Britain was able to implement these orders, while Napoleon was less successful, even though he responded to the 1807 orders by issuing the **Milan Decree** of 17 December 1807, which forbade neutrals from trading with Britain in any way.

All neutrals suffered because of this war on trade, but American losses provoked outrage in the **United States** that coincided with rising anger over British **impressment** of American seamen and the **Chesapeake–Leopard Affair** (22 June 1807). The American government under Presidents **Thomas Jefferson** and **James Madison** de-

veloped a **restrictive system** of trade policies, but its impact on Britain and France was slow in developing. Britain issued a new set of orders in council (revisions of the former orders) on 26 April 1809.

Trade restrictions damaged the British economy, and under pressure from business interests, the government declared in an order in council on 21 April 1812, its intent to revoke its orders of 1807 and 1809 if proof of the French repeal of the Berlin and Milan Decrees was confirmed. The fraudulent **St. Cloud Decree** was announced in 11 May, and on 23 June the British orders were revoked. This was expected to also relieve tension between Washington and London, but war had been declared five days before in Washington. When news of the repeal of the orders reached America in August, the **Pre-vost–Dearborn Armistice** (August–September 1812) was negotiated to allow consideration of the implications. Madison's cabinet rejected the idea of ending the war, so the repeal of the orders in council did not have the intended diplomatic effect.

ORDNANCE. *See* ARTILLERY.

ORPHEUS (RN). Commissioned to Captain **Hugh Pigot** and in company with HM Schooner *Shelburne*, Lieutenant **David Hope**, the *Orpheus* captured the U.S. Sloop *Frolic*, Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge**, off the tip of **Florida** on 20 April 1814. The ship was broken up in 1819.

Type: 36-gun **fifth-rate frigate**. Launch: 1809, Deptford, UK. Standard armament: 26 18-pdr lg, two 9-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 145' ld × 38' 3dp × 13' 4" dh, 947 tons. Crew: 274.

ORPHEUS AND SHELBURNE'S PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF *FROLIC* (20 April 1814). Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge** left Boston in the U.S. Sloop *Frolic* in February 1814 on a cruise and was north of Havana, Cuba, in the Florida Straits at dawn on 20 April 1814, when he spotted three vessels. He changed course to investigate and around 7:30 A.M. realized that two of them were warships, HMS *Orpheus*, Captain **Hugh Pigot**, and HM Schooner *Shelburne*, Lieutenant **David Hope**. Bainbridge tried to outrun the British and headed for Matanzas, Cuba, but the British cut him off. He lightened

the *Frolic* by jettisoning his guns and pumping out his water casks and considered running the **brig-sloop** ashore on the rocky Cuban coast, but this would have likely cost the crew their lives. At 1:30 P.M., with both opponents within 100 yards and about to open fire, Bainbridge consulted his officers for their advice and then surrendered. A **court-martial** later absolved Bainbridge of blame for the loss of his vessel. The British bought the *Frolic* into the service and renamed it the *Florida*.

OSHGOSH (Menominee) (1795–1858). Born in a village on the Menominee River (bordering **Michigan Territory** and **Wisconsin**), Oshgosh was the grandson of Cha-we-non, the Old King, who assigned his adviser Tomah to mentor the boy. While still in his teens, Oshgosh went with Tomah and other **Menominee** warriors to join the British forces at the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812), the **investment of Fort Meigs** (July 1813), the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August 1814), and the American **assault of Michilimackinac** (4 August 1814). Following the war, Oshgosh became known as the “Brave” and grew to prominence among his people, becoming a grand chief who resisted American expansion and succeeding in signing treaties that preserved Menominee land. He was beaten to death by two of his sons after a drunken quarrel.

OSTRANDER, PHILIP (?–1813). A resident of **New York**, Ostrander was a **sergeant** in the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** before being given a **commission** as **ensign** in 1806. He was a **lieutenant** in September 1812 at **Fort Wayne** when it was besieged by **Potawatomi** and **Ottawa** warriors under **Five Medals** and **Winnemac**. He and Ensign **Daniel Curtis** relieved the fort’s commander, Captain **James Rhea**, of command because of his drunken incompetence during the siege.

OSWEGATCHIE. Situated near where **Ogdensburg, New York**, is at the Oswegatchie River, this was one of the original settlements of the **Seven Nations**, although by 1800 many of its people had moved to the other settlements, such as **Akwesasne**, and the rest were forcibly removed by the U.S. government in 1806.

OSWEGATCHIE, FORT. The Americans had only partially built this quadrilateral **redoubt** on the eastern flank of **Ogdensburg, New York**, when a British force captured and destroyed it in February 1813.

OSWEGO, FORT. *See* FORT ONTARIO.

OSWEGO, NEW YORK. Located at the mouth of the **Oswego River** on the southern shore of **Lake Ontario**, about 130 miles east of the **Niagara River**, this village had several hundred residents, 40 homes, taverns, warehouses, wharves, and a small shipyard. It was a key transshipment point for **New York**, being connected by rivers and a canal to **New York City**. The **USN** under Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** at **Sackets Harbor** received much of its **ordnance** and other equipment through this port.

OSWEGO, NEW YORK, ASSAULT ON (5–6 May 1814). During the early months of 1814, Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** and Commodore **Sir James Yeo** developed ambitious plans for striking at the Americans. One entailed an expedition that would cross the ice of **Lake Erie** to recapture or destroy the British warships of Commander **Robert Barclay's** **squadron** at **Put-in-Bay**, while a second scheme involved a large-scale attack on **Sackets Harbor** in the spring. A mild winter and logistical problems prevented the first, while **Sir George Prevost** refused to authorize the second. In place of the latter plan, Drummond and Yeo decided to assault **Oswego** since it was a key transshipment point for supplies, especially heavy **ordnance** and equipment needed by Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** at Sackets.

Drummond embarked with 550 officers and men (450 of **De Watteville's** **Regiment**, the **Glengarry Light Infantry** light company, 24 of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** with two guns, and 20 **Royal Sappers and Miners**) in Yeo's **squadron**, which consisted of the newly launched *Prince Regent* (1814) and *Princess Charlotte*; the *Montreal*, *Niagara* (1814B), *Star*, *Charwell*, *Magnet*, and *Netley*; and three large **gunboats**. Also on board were 350 of the **2nd Battalion of Royal Marines** and six men of the **Rocket Corps** with **Congreve rockets**. They arrived off Oswego the next day and, after

probing the American strength by sending in the gunboats, were about to land when bad weather forced Yeo to gain a seaway. Shortly after midnight, the **squadron** returned to Oswego.

Fort Ontario was a weak position and only lightly manned. Lieutenant Colonel **George Mitchell** had recently arrived there with a detachment of his **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery** (recently reorganized into the **Corps of Artillery**) acting as **infantry**. He reported a force of 290 **regulars** and some **New York Militia** (perhaps 100). There were also 25 **USN** officers and men under Master Commandant **Melancthon Woolsey** who were moving naval supplies.

Mitchell pitched empty tents in the village across the river from the fort to deceive the British. He manned his **batteries** but secluded most of his force in the **fort** and others in the woods near the spot where the British eventually landed.

Yeo deployed his vessels to bombard the village and the fort (from which came a regular and effective fire, causing damage to the *Montreal*) and to cover the landing, and this was achieved around 2:00 P.M. on the shore east of the fort. Lieutenant Colonel **Viktor Fischer** commanded the force ashore, first clearing the woods of opposition and then forming the **infantry** and **marines** in line for an assault on the fort. About the same time, Captain **William Mulcaster** led a party of about 200 seamen to attack the fort from the west. Mitchell withdrew all his men to the fort, and when the British charge came, he resisted it with ferocity but could hold out for only half an hour before signaling the retreat and heading up the **Oswego River** road to safety. While some of the seamen had been with Mitchell, Woolsey had attempted to destroy or hide some of the ordnance and stores at the village.

The British captured the fort in quick order but at a heavy price: 22 killed and 72 wounded (including Mulcaster); American losses were estimated at six dead, 38 wounded, and 25 captured.

In return for their losses, the British captured nine guns, 300 rounds of shot, eight barrels of powder, heavy cordage, over 1,000 barrels of provisions, two **schooners**, and several small boats. The assault temporarily interrupted Chauncey's supply line and, subsequently, delayed the sailing of his squadron, but the difficulty of capturing Oswego confirmed Prevost's hesitation about trying to seize Sackets Harbor. Yeo soon implemented a **blockade** on Sackets, but

this was undone by the results of the **skirmish on Sandy Creek** (30 May).

OSWEGO RIVER, NEW YORK. This river flowed into **Lake Ontario** at **Oswego** over a series of falls and rapids. It was the last link in the vital and long-used water transportation system that linked **New York City** to the lake via the Hudson and Mohawk Rivers, the Wood Creek Canal, Lake Oneida, the Oneida River, and the Oswego River.

OTTAWA. The name of this nation derived from an Algonquin term “to trade.” In 1812, their settlements ranged through the lower **Michigan Territory** peninsula, and they were fully involved in the fur trade.

They allied themselves with the British and were with them at the following: 1813, **Frenchtown** (22 January), **Fort Meigs** (May, July),



The Assault on Oswego, 6 May 1814. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C794

the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (8 July), **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), **Moraviantown** (5 October), the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December), and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, probably at **Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July) and the American **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August). Representatives from Ottawa tribes signed the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815) with American officials to formally end hostilities.

OTTER CREEK, VERMONT. This river flowed northward into **Lake Champlain** about 15 miles south of **Burlington, Vermont**. Six miles up its course was situated the city of **Vergennes**.

OTTER CREEK, VERMONT, SKIRMISH AT (14 May 1814). The ice broke up on **Lake Champlain** early in April 1814, weeks ahead of its normal time, and this made Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough** worry that the British would sail to **Otter Creek** and attack his shipyard at **Vergennes, Vermont**, before he could launch the USS *Saratoga* and U.S. Schooner *Ticonderoga* or outfit his six new **galleys**, which is exactly what the British attempted.

Commander **Daniel Pring** set out from **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, on 9 May, but because of adverse winds, it took until 14 May to make the 65-mile journey to Otter Creek. He had with him HM Sloop *Linnet*, the **sloop-rigged Chub** and *Finch* (formerly the *Shannon* [1813] and *Broke*), two other **sloops**, and seven **gunboats**. They were manned by small crews of **RN** officers and men with a detachment of the 1st Battalion of **Royal Marines** on board. His intention was to storm the **battery** erected at the mouth of the creek and then raid Vergennes.

The slowness of the British approach gave Macdonough ample warning, and he had some of his six galleys and four gunboats in the mouth of the creek ready for action. In addition, the battery known as Fort Cassin, with its seven 12-pdr **long guns**, was manned by naval personnel under Lieutenant Stephen Cassin and a party of the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. A large number of **Vermont Militia** had turned out to defend the place as well.

Pring sent in his gunboats and one of the sloops at dawn, and they exchanged fire with Fort Cassin for an hour and a half before he re-

called them. Deciding the position was too heavily defended, Pring withdrew and sailed back to the Richelieu after inspecting military positions on shore. He lost one killed and two wounded, while the Americans had three wounded in the battery. Unscathed, **Macdonough's squadron** sailed onto the lake late in May.

OXFORD COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Oxford County was located southwest of modern-day London, Ontario, and was part of the London District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, as was a **rifle company**. Oxford men were present at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August 1812). They were posted at various points and on patrol in search of marauding American sympathizers and were involved in the **skirmish at Malcolm's Mills** (6 November 1814).

Among its prominent officers during the war was **Henry Bostwick**.

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PAKENHAM, SIR EDWARD MICHAEL (1778–1815). Irish by birth, this officer joined the **British army** as a **lieutenant** in 1794 and within six months and two transfers had a **major's commission**. He was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** after proving his worth during the failed French invasion of Ireland in 1798. Packenham saw action in Denmark and the West Indies, was wounded twice, and promoted to **colonel** in 1809, the same year he joined the staff of the future **Duke of Wellington**, who was his brother-in-law. Packenham distinguished himself on the battlefield in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), was advanced to **major general** in 1811, and was made a **CB** in 1813.

After Napoleon had abdicated in 1814, Packenham was offered command of a force being assembled for what became Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815). Others had turned it down, and he was dubious about the plan or the information on which it was based, but he accepted the post and sailed for Cochrane's rendezvous at Negril Bay on Jamaica. He arrived there in the second week of December to find that

Cochrane had gone to the Gulf coast without him. Packenham finally joined Cochrane and Major General **John Keane** at their position below **New Orleans** on 25 December. It has been frequently reported that Packenham was displeased with the conditions he discovered. Nevertheless, he chose to prosecute the campaign and launched his **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December). This showed him that the Americans under Major General **Andrew Jackson** were not going to break under pressure as they had at the **battles of Bladensburg** (24 August 1814) and **North Point** (12 September 1814).

Deciding that a breach had to be made in Jackson's line of defense, Packenham established **batteries** under cover of darkness within 800 yards of the line. These comprised mainly naval guns because the proper **siege ordnance** was still in transit. The **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815) was another resounding failure.

Next, Packenham waited for the last 2,000 troops to arrive under Major General **John Lambert**, and they did arrive by 6 January. The British army was exhausted and depleted after weeks of exposure to the elements, endless labor, battle, and constant harassment by American snipers and **artillery**. Packenham and Cochrane agreed on an ambitious scheme to bring 40 boats from **Lake Borgne** to the Mississippi River for an attack on the American batteries opposite Jackson's line; this was only one of several times when the two commanders, often said to have been at odds with each other, combined their efforts for the mutual good.

Packenham picked 8 January as the day for the grand assault. The boat attack was key to the day's success, and when it was delayed, Packenham might have put off the assault. Instead, he ordered the **final assault at New Orleans** and paid for it with his life. Rallying the disorganized troops in front of Jackson's line, Packenham's horse was killed under him while he took a grape shot in the knee, then a wound to his arm, and finally a shot through his spine. He died while being carried to the surgeons. Preserved in rum, Packenham's body was returned to England for burial.

PALISADE. This was a wooden wall on the perimeter of a **fort** constructed of upright sharpened stakes, their bases buried three or so feet in the ground.

PAPER BLOCKADE. Unlike the British **orders in council**, which were implemented by the RN, the French **Berlin** and **Milan Decrees** were considered paper blockades because few French warships could elude the British **blockades** and seize **merchantmen** that contravened the French decrees. These decrees were mainly enforced by government officials who detained foreign merchantmen after they reached the ports of France and its allies.

PARAPET. A parapet was a mound of earth, usually in a **fort**, raised for protection against an enemy's fire.

PARKER, HYDE (ca. 1782–1854). Parker attended the Royal Naval Academy at Portsmouth from 1796 and joined the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1799. He rose to **midshipman** in 1801, **lieutenant** in 1804, **commander** in 1806, and **captain** in 1807. In April 1812, he was appointed to HMS *Tenedos* and served through the war on the **North America Station**. He was involved in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815). His **ship** was part of the **squadron** of Captain **John Hayes**, HMS *Majestic*, which **blockaded** American ships at **New York City** late in 1814 and captured the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, on 15 January 1815. Parker remained in the service following the war, was made a **CB** in 1839, and rose to **vice admiral** in 1852.

PAROLE. To give one's parole was to make a promise. A **prisoner of war** confined in enemy territory could gain permission to move about freely in the town or countryside if he signed a **parole** certificate with the local agent for prisoners, agreeing not to venture past the limits it closely prescribed; this was usually extended only to **commissioned** officers. A prisoner would sign a second type of certificate when he was allowed to return to his homeland on the condition that he would not serve under arms until he was formally **exchanged**.

PARSONS, USHER (1788–1868). Born in **Maine**, Parsons was trained for a career in medicine, and when his attempts to establish a private practice failed, he joined the **USN** as a **surgeon's mate** in July 1812. He was part of the force sent to the Great Lakes late in the summer with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** and was stationed at

Buffalo. On 28 May 1813, he crossed the **Niagara River** with 20 civilians to take command of **Fort Erie**, which the British had abandoned following the **battle of Fort George** (27 May); U.S. **regulars** soon took over at the fort. Parsons went with Master Commandant **Oliver Perry** to **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in June and was in the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence* during the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813).

In April 1814, Parsons was promoted to **surgeon** and was later part of Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814). Transferred to the USS *Java* (1814) under Perry, Parsons left the lakes in the fall.

Highly regarded by his contemporaries, Parsons enjoyed a successful career in medicine after the war. His diary, a daily accounting of more than two years on the lakes, provides interesting details about events afloat and ashore.

PATTERSON, DANIEL TODD (1786–1839). This officer was born on Long Island, **New York**, and joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1799, seeing action in the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He was sent to **New Orleans** in 1806 and rose to **lieutenant** the next year. In July 1812, Patterson was promoted to **master commandant** and later that year took command of the New Orleans station.

Patterson saw no action of importance until the summer of 1814, when it became evident that the British were about to launch what became Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815). With the cooperation of Governor William C. Claiborne, Patterson joined with Colonel George T. Ross and his **Forty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** to launch an attack on the base of the **Baratarian** pirates at Barataria Bay. With the U.S. Schooner *Carolina*, the *Seahorse* dispatch boat, five **gunboats**, and several barges, the combined navy and army force destroyed the pirate base on Grande Terre Island, making it inaccessible to the British.

When Cochrane's campaign began in earnest, Patterson sent Lieutenant **Thomas Jones** to watch the British advance. This led to the loss of the gunboat flotilla at the **battle of Lake Borgne** (15 December). The next week, Patterson was on board the U.S. Schooner *Caro-*

lina commanded by Master Commandant **John Henley** during the **attack at Villeré's plantation** (23 December), and he commanded the U.S. Sloop *Louisiana* during Cochrane's **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December) and the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815). During the British **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), Patterson and the men from his **ship** served batteries on the western shore of Mississippi River enfilading the British line.

Patterson received the thanks of the **U.S. Congress** in 1815 and was promoted to **captain**. He remained in charge at New Orleans until 1824, when he took other commands afloat, serving for a period as **commodore** in the Mediterranean **squadron** in the 1830s.

PATUXENT RIVER, MARYLAND. The upper reaches of the Patuxent River pass within 20 miles of **Washington, D.C.** It widens and become a navigable channel that flows into **Chesapeake Bay** about 15 miles north of the mouth of the **Potomac River**.

PEACE OF GHENT. *See* GHENT, TREATY OF (24 December 1814).

PEACOCK (1806) (RN). This vessel was allegedly nicknamed “the yacht” because of Commander **William Peake**'s efforts to perfect its appearance. It sank immediately after battling with the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Captain **James Lawrence**, off the Demerara River (Guyana), South America, on 24 February 1813. This *Peacock* should not be confused with a second British *Peacock*, which was the name eventually given to the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* captured north of **Bermuda** on 18 October 1812 by HMS *Poictiers*. This second *Peacock* foundered in August 1814.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1806, Ipswich, UK. Actual armament: two 9-pdr lg, one 4-pdr lg, one 12-pdr crde, 16 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

PEACOCK (1813) (USN). This vessel was named after HM Sloop *Peacock* (1806) sunk by the U.S. Sloop *Hornet* on 24 February 1813. Under Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington**, it captured HMS *Epervier*, Commander **Richard Wales**, off Cape Canaveral, **Florida**

on 29 April 1814. Warrington was promoted to **captain**, the vessel was re-rated as a **ship**, and in it he captured the **brig Nautilus**, Lieutenant **Charles Boyce**, East India Company Bombay Marine off Java (30 June 1815). The *Peacock* remained in service until 1827, when it was badly damaged in a collision with a whale; the next year it was broken up.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1813, **Baltimore**. Actual armament: (1814) two 12-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 119' bp × 31' 6" × 14' 6" dr, 509 tons. Crew: 140.

PEACOCK (1813) VS. EPERVIER, NAVAL BATTLE OF (29 April 1814). The U.S. Sloop *Peacock*, Master Commandant **Lewis Warrington**, eluded the British **blockade** at **New York City** in March 1814 and headed south along the eastern seaboard. On 29 April, it sighted HM Sloop *Epervier*, Commander **Richard Wales**, convoying three **merchantmen**. Wales ordered these vessels to disperse while he turned to face the *Peacock*, which had a slight advantage in **broadside** strength and a larger crew. In the 45-minute battle with the *Peacock*, the British **brig-sloop's** rigging and hull were torn up, and its **carronades** were upset by shot and from not having been properly anchored. The crew, which had shown rebellious intentions, was reported to have fought with little determination, while they suffered eight dead and 15 wounded, including Wales. Only two men in the *Peacock* were slightly injured, and the **sloop** was barely damaged, proof of the poor British gunnery. Warrington confiscated \$110,000 in gold **specie** found on board the *Epervier*, reporting that he suspected the British seamen had pocketed up to \$8,000 in coin before the Americans secured their **ship**. Warrington put a prize crew on board the *Epervier* and sailed it safely to Savannah, **Georgia**.

PEACOCK (1813) VS. NAUTILUS, NAVAL BATTLE OF (30 June 1815). This was the final naval engagement of the War of 1812. It occurred on 30 June 1815 in the Strait of Sunda off Java when the USS *Peacock*, Captain **Lewis Warrington**, met the *Nautilus*, a 16-gun **brig** belonging to the East India Company Bombay Marine, commanded by Lieutenant **Charles Boyce**. Boyce informed Warrington that the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had ended the war, but the Americans opened fire, severely damaging the *Nautilus*,

killing six and wounding eight, including Boyce, but suffering no injury himself. The *Nautilus* carried \$30,000 in gold coin and \$100,000 worth of copper, but Warrington was forced to release the brig when the British showed him documents confirming the ratification of the Treaty of Ghent. The **U.S. Congress** later voted compensation for Boyce.

PEAKE, WILLIAM (?–1813). Peake was the son of **ship** designer and had two brothers in the **RN**. He gained his **lieutenancy** in 1797 and was promoted to **commander** in 1806. He commanded HM Sloop *Peacock* when he encountered the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Captain **James Lawrence**, on 24 February 1813. Peake was wounded by a **musket ball** and a splinter during the first exchange of the action and then killed instantly by a round shot. Lawrence secured a victory after only 30 minutes of fighting. Peake was later criticized for having paid more attention to appearances than to gunnery on the *Peacock*.

PEARCE, CROMWELL (1772–1852). Pearce was a resident of **Pennsylvania** and a landowner of some influence. He entered the state **militia** in 1793, had a brief term in the **U.S. Army**, and in 1812 was the **major general** of a **division** of **Pennsylvania Militia**.

In July 1812, Pearce obtained a **commission** as **colonel** of the newly formed **Sixteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, most of which he raised and trained in Pennsylvania before marching to the **Greenbush** cantonment near **Albany, New York**, in the autumn and then on to **Plattsburgh**. Here the regiment acted as a reserve in Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s failed invasion of **LC** and the **skirmish at Lacolle** (20 November).

After a difficult winter at Plattsburgh, the Sixteenth marched to **Sackett Harbor** and sailed in Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**'s **squadron** for the **battle of York** (27 April 1813), where it performed well, and Pearce took command on the ground after Brigadier General **Zebulon Pike** was mortally wounded. The **regiment** went on to see action at **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), Major General **James Wilkinson**'s **campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

Pearce was on recruitment at Philadelphia during the winter but rejoined the regiment later in the year to march it to the **Niagara Frontier**, where it participated in the latter stage of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), and fought at the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Pearce was honorably discharged from the army in June 1815 and returned to Pennsylvania to live a successful private life. Pearce left a memoir of his service with the Sixteenth that was arranged with other papers after his death but not published until 1985. It provides considerable detail about the regiment's activities and living conditions and tries to correct official reports that failed to give Pearce and his men their due praise. In the latter regard, it resembles the memoirs of other officers, American and British alike. The American historian John C. Fredriksen edited the material, publishing it under the title "A Poor but Honest Sodger," explaining and amplifying references with his characteristic expertise.

PELICAN (RN). Under Commander **John Maples**, this vessel captured the U.S. Brig **Argus**, Lieutenant **William Allen**, on 14 August 1813 in St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales. The *Pelican* was still on active service in the early 1840s.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1812, Devon, UK. Actual armament: four 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

PELICAN VS. ARGUS, NAVAL BATTLE OF (14 August 1813).

Commander **John Maples**, HM Sloop *Pelican*, was on the lookout for the U.S. Brig **Argus**, Lieutenant **William Allen**, which had attacked shipping on the west coast of England since early July 1813, when he sighted the **brig** in St. George's Channel between Ireland and Wales early on 14 August. The commanding officers were skillful seamen, and both vessels were similar in size, but the British 32-pdr **carronades** outperformed the American 24-pdrs, severely damaging the *Argus*'s rigging and steering, and after 45 minutes of fighting, the *Argus* surrendered. The British suffered two killed and five wounded, while the Americans had 29 casualties, of whom 11 were killed outright or, as did Allen, suffered mortal wounds.

PENETANGUISHENE BAY. This small inlet is located in the south-eastern corner of **Georgian Bay** near modern-day Midland, Ontario. It was the site of a small **RN** dockyard after the war.

PENGUIN (RN). **Commissioned** to Commander **James Dickinson**, this vessel was captured by the U.S. Sloop ***Hornet***, Master Commandant **James Biddle**, off Tristan de Cunha in the South Atlantic on 23 March 1815. Biddle ordered it destroyed the next day.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1812, Bottomley, UK. Standard armament: two 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

PENINSULAR WAR (1808–1814). This war began when the French troops invaded Spain in 1808. The invasion was opposed by a Spanish rebellion and the alliance of Britain and Portugal. It involved some of the most dramatic campaigns and battles of the **Napoleonic Wars** (1803–1815) and made the **Duke of Wellington** one of Britain's most important and influential army commanders. The Peninsular War ended early in 1814 when the Anglo-Portuguese armies gained a hold of the southwestern portion of France and **Napoleon** abdicated.

PENNSYLVANIA. Pennsylvania was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Harrisburg. In 1810, its population was about 810,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—16 for, two against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governor was Simon Snyder (**Republican**, 1808–1817).

PENNSYLVANIA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 98,900 officers and men on the rolls of the Pennsylvania Militia, the largest militia force in the nation. The state was divided into sixteen **divisions**, each with two **brigades** of six **regiments** each, raised on a county basis. Detachments were formed for war service. They were organized into regiments in 21 brigades in four divisions. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 14,000. Under the

leadership of Governor Simon Snyder, the militia responded eagerly to the call.

Elements of the militia were encamped on the **Niagara Frontier** late in 1812. Others joined Brigadier General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813) for a period the following winter; some remained during the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813). They also **garrisoned Erie, Pennsylvania**, and about 120 served in Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813). About 400 men under Colonel James Fenton participated in the **raid on Port Dover** (14–16 May 1814). About 750 militia marched under Fenton to join Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October). Some fought at **Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie Sortie** (17 September). Two brigades were present during the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Twelve-month volunteer companies from Pennsylvania included the **Pittsburgh Blues**, the Greenburg Rifles, and Captain Joseph Markle's Light Dragoons.

PENOBSCOT RIVER, MAINE. *See* MAINE CAMPAIGN (July 1814–April 1815).

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA. Located in Spanish-held **Florida**, about 160 miles east of **New Orleans**, the town of Pensacola had a population of about 1,000 in 1812. It was **garrisoned** by Spanish troops in several small **forts**. They appealed for and received support from the British in August 1814, and Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** took command of the post. Major General **Andrew Jackson** made his **attack on Pensacola** (7 November 1814), and Americans held it for the rest of the war.

PENSACOLA, FLORIDA, CAPTURE OF (7 November 1814). Major General **Andrew Jackson** was at **Mobile, Mississippi Territory**, when he learned of the unsuccessful British **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September 1814) by the small force under Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** based at Spanish-held **Pensacola, Flor-**

ida. He decided to attack Nicholls's force in order to remove that threat to American holdings and impede the operations for the large British force heading from Jamaica to attack **New Orleans**. To this end, he ordered an expedition to assemble at Fort Montgomery (65 miles northwest of Pensacola) and joined it on 26 October. His force consisted of about 520 **regulars** (**Third, Thirty-ninth, and Forty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** with two **field guns**), 750 **Choctaw** and **Chickasaw** warriors, and nearly 3,000 **Mississippi** and **Tennessee Militia**, many of them mounted, and three more guns. They arrived at Pensacola on 6 November.

The British-Spanish relations at Pensacola had deteriorated since the failed attack on Fort Bowyer. Nicholls's officers had been too aggressive in their recruitment of black slaves and too demanding of Spanish officials; the British **squadron**, now under Captain **James Gordon**, and most of the land force had gone to Nicholls's original landing place at the **Apalachicola River**. The governor of West **Florida**, Don Mateo González Manrique, hesitated to accept British help against Jackson but then requested it. Gordon brought reinforcements in three warships that he anchored off the town to support the Spanish. González Manrique had about 500 men distributed among several small **forts** and **blockhouses**.

Jackson launched his attack at dawn on 7 November with about 3,500 men approaching the town from the east. When an offer to surrender was rejected, Jackson advanced, sending a **company** of the Third Infantry to take a **battery** of two guns barring the road into town. This was accomplished after a sharp skirmish and resulted in González Manrique's sudden decision to surrender. Jackson's troops entered the town and secured the other batteries while under fire from Gordon's vessels. When the terms of surrender were finalized, Gordon withdrew and reembarked some of the **Royal Marines**, the corps of former slaves, and **Creek** warriors that had been landed; others marched overland to Apalachicola. They do not appear to have been involved in the fighting. Before retreating, the British blew up a strong fort eight miles west of the town.

Casualties included five Americans killed and 10 wounded, while the Spanish suffered 14 dead and six wounded, and the British appear to have suffered none. A potential international dispute was avoided. Jackson had acted without permission to capture Pensacola, which

might have enraged Spain, but he convinced González Manrique (who was happy to be rid of the British and their Creek allies) that his intentions were only to safeguard American territory in the face of an impending invasion while protecting Spanish neutrality. Jackson left for Mobile, leaving a detachment of regulars and **militia** to **garrison** the town and its forts.

PERCY, WILLIAM HENRY (1788–1855). This officer was born into a family of means and influence. He entered the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1801, advancing to **midshipman** the next year and **lieutenant** in 1807. Percy served in the Orient, the home station, and the Mediterranean, although without any particular distinction. Nevertheless, he was made a **commander** in 1810 and promoted to **post captain** in March 1812 and moved into HMS *Hermes*. An anecdote of the time notes that he was “a very young man, a Scotchman, and mild and gentlemanly.”

Percy commanded the **squadron** of four small warships that supported the activities of Lieutenant Colonel **Edward Nicholls** at **Pensacola, Florida**, in the summer and fall of 1814. With Nicholls, he planned and executed the **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September), which was a total failure and resulted in the loss of the *Hermes*.

A **court-martial** in January 1815 absolved Percy of blame for the loss of his **ship**, and Cochrane gave him the dubious distinction of carrying home dispatches reporting the resounding British defeat at the **battle of New Orleans** (8 January). It appears that he did not get another command afloat, although he was elected to Parliament and had a long-term civil post. He retired from active service but was advanced to **rear admiral** in 1846 and **vice admiral** nine years later.

PERRY, OLIVER HAZARD (1785–1819). The son of a mariner, Perry was born at Newport, **Rhode Island**, and entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** aboard his father’s **ship**, the *General Greene*, in 1799. He advanced to **lieutenant** in 1802 while serving in the Mediterranean Sea during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) but had no opportunity to gain special recognition. He commanded the U.S. Schooner *Nautilus* briefly and then the **schooner** *Revenge*, which he wrecked on a shoal near Newport during a heavy fog in February 1811.

Perry was promoted to **master commandant** early in 1812 and commanded a flotilla of **gunboats** at Newport. Eager for a more active command, he asked the Navy Department and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** for a posting on the lakes. Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** ordered him to join Chauncey on 8 February 1813, and later that month Perry met the **commodore** at Albany, **New York**, and traveled to **Sackets Harbor** with him. Perry then went to **Black Rock, New York**, to inspect **merchantmen** under conversion there and on to **Erie, Pennsylvania**, where six vessels were being built. Through the next months, Perry showed great industry in preparing his **squadron**.

Late in May, Perry was at Black Rock when he heard of the imminent attack on **Fort George**. He went to **Fort Niagara** and offered his services to Chauncey. He helped the commodore lay out buoys for the warships to use during the attack and to direct the landing of the army (27 May). Within a few weeks, however, he became embroiled in a controversy when he complained to Secretary Jones that Chauncey was not sending him enough good seamen. Chauncey's rebuked Perry, who then tendered his resignation to Jones; it was rejected.

Not lacking for industry, leadership ability, or personal courage, Perry got his squadron over the bar at Presque Isle Bay (Erie) early in August and sailed to coordinate his efforts with Major General **William Harrison** at Sandusky Bay. He sailed off **Amherstburg** and challenged Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron**. At the subsequent **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Perry fought tenaciously and had the creativity to leave his wrecked flagship, the U.S. Sloop **Lawrence**, and take command of the U.S. Sloop **Niagara (1813)** in order to win the day. His knack for luck held true, and though the **Lawrence** suffered a casualty rate of 60 percent and nearly every British senior officer was killed or wounded, Perry survived unscathed. His use of a battle flag bearing the motto "**Don't Give Up the Ship,**" and his first brief report on the victory, "**We have met the enemy and they are ours,**" became part of the USN tradition and common parlance. Unfortunately, the victory was marred by the **Perry-Elliott controversy**, which hung over Perry for the rest of his short life and was a nuisance to the USN for decades.

After working tirelessly with Harrison to land the invasion force

near Amherstburg on 27 September, Perry acted as an aide to Harrison and was present at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October). He returned to Erie with his squadron and most of his **prizes** and then went east, having received permission from Jones to leave the lakes; this aroused the ire of Chauncey, who complained bitterly to Jones about Perry's preferential treatment. In addition, Perry left the lakes before completing his mission, which had been to ultimately retake **Michilimackinac** and gain control of the upper lakes.

His victory at Put-in-Bay made Perry a national hero. He was feted in town after town, promoted to **captain** (effective 10 September), and awarded a gold medal by the **U.S. Congress**. He was also put ahead of senior officers and given command of the new 44-gun **frigate Java (1814)** under construction at **Baltimore**; it did not sail before the war ended. He was present during the British campaigns against **Washington** and **Baltimore** in the summer of 1814; on 5 August, he attempted to interrupt Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September) with a **battery** on the Potomac but failed. Perry served afloat until 1819, when he unluckily contracted yellow fever and died at Trinidad.

PERRY-ELLIOTT CONTROVERSY. Captain **Oliver Perry's** signal victory at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813) sparked one of the bitterest controversies in the early years of the **USN**.

In a council of war just prior to the battle, Perry explained that he intended his flagship, the U.S. Sloop **Lawrence**, to fight the British flagship **Detroit (1813)**, which he expected to be in the rear of the British line. For this reason, he placed Master Commandant **Jesse Elliott's Niagara (1813)** near the front of his own line, where he wanted it to oppose HMS **Queen Charlotte**. He advised his commanders to stay close to the *Lawrence* and to engage their opposite number at close range.

When Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** appeared on 10 September, the *Detroit* was ahead of the *Queen Charlotte* with the **General Hunter** in between. Perry instructed Elliott to fall back behind the **Caledonia** while he went ahead of it to confront the *Detroit*. Elliott did this and resolutely held his position behind the sluggishly sailing *Caledonia*, while the *Lawrence* moved ahead and engaged the *Detroit* and most of the British line virtually alone for the better part

of two hours. The *Niagara* was only just beginning to move past the *Caledonia* when Perry left his flagship to take command of the *Niagara* and win the battle.

Perry praised Elliott's conduct in his official report rather than condemning him to avoid marring the victory with a scandal. Criticism spread rapidly by word of mouth, however, and Elliott got wind of it. He asked Perry for a statement of support, which Perry gave him. Unsatisfied, Elliott made disparaging remarks about Perry and urged his fellow officers to write letters in his support. Perry knew of this and, though angered by it, did nothing provocative. The publication of testimonies from Barclay's **court-martial** showed that British officers openly questioned Elliott's conduct, which made matters worse, and Elliott demanded a court-martial of his own conduct. It was held in 1815; only a few of the principals (excluding Perry) were involved, and Elliott was acquitted of misconduct.

But Elliott would not let the matter drop, and it eventually drove Perry to prepare a response that he did not release but news of which prompted Elliott to challenge him to a duel; Perry declined. In 1818, Perry preferred charges against Elliott but was convinced by the secretary of the navy to leave them unprocessed. He died the next year.

When **Stephen Decatur** (a good friend of Perry's) was killed in a duel with **James Barron** (for whom Elliott served as second), Decatur's widow had some of Perry's comments published and accused Elliott of complicity in the affair as a means of inflicting harm on one of Perry's allies. This drove Elliott to further extreme justifications of his behavior at Put-in-Bay. Pathetically, he kept up this campaign through the rest of his life.

PERRY'S SQUADRON. The first of the vessels that would be part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** squadron on **Lake Erie** were assembled in the late summer of 1812, when the **USN** ordered Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** to establish a presence on the upper lakes. Chauncey sent a detachment of **USN** officers and men under Lieutenant **Samuel Angus** to **Black Rock, New York**, on the **Niagara River**, where they eventually fitted out five **merchantmen** for war duty: the *Amelia*, *Caledonia*, *Ohio*, *Somers*, and *Trippe*. These were the first **USN** vessels ever to operate on the upper lakes. Perry saw these vessels for the first time late in March 1813, when he passed

through Black Rock on the way to **Erie, Pennsylvania**. By that time, there were six vessels under construction at Erie (on the shore of Presque Isle Bay): the **schooners** *Porcupine*, *Tigress*, *Scorpion* (1813) and *Ariel* and the **brigs** *Lawrence* and *Niagara* (1813).

After traveling to Pittsburgh to arrange for materiel for his squadron, Perry returned to Erie and then Black Rock, where, following the **battle of Fort George (27 May)**, he had the Black Rock vessels hauled up to Lake Erie. He then sailed them to Erie, narrowly missing being intercepted by Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron**. The last of the new vessels was launched in June, and Perry spent the rest of that month and most of July fitting them out. Manpower was a great concern for him, and he appealed to Chauncey and directly to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** for more seamen. Although the issue caused friction between Perry and the **commodore**, the latter sent him several large detachments of men.

The mouth of Presque Isle Bay was choked by a bar that made it difficult for Perry to get his brigs onto the lake, but soon after this task was completed, Perry sailed on 12 August to rendezvous with the **Army of the Northwest** under Major General **William Harrison** at **Sandusky Bay** on 17 August. Twice in the following weeks, Perry sailed toward the **Detroit River** to inspect the British shipyard at **Amherstburg** before returning to take up an anchorage at **Put-in-Bay** at **South Bass Island**, about 40 miles south-southeast of Amherstburg and 14 miles northwest of Sandusky Bay.

In the second week of September, Perry sent the *Ohio* to Erie, where the *Amelia* was. He ended up fighting the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813) with three brigs, five schooners, and a **sloop**, mounting 39 **carronades** and 15 **long guns**. The vessels carried about 535 officers and men, 60 percent of whom were from the USN, the rest including a small contingent of **U.S. Marines**, about 120 **Pennsylvania Militia**, about 20 **Kentucky Militia**, two **New York Militia**, two of the **Petersburg Volunteers**, and about 135 men from Harrison's army. This latter group included men (in some cases only one or two) from the **Second, Ninth, Fourteenth, Sixteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-sixth, Twenty-seventh, and Twenty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery**; and the **First U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**.

Perry's squadron passed into the hands of Master Commandant **Jesse Elliott** when he left it in October and then to Captain **Arthur Sinclair** in 1814.

PERSEVERANCE. This British **merchantman** was involved in the fur trade on the upper lakes. It was **schooner**-rigged and had a burthen of about 100 tons. It was destroyed in the **raid at St. Mary River, UC**, on 26 July 1814 during Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814).

PERT (USN). The USN purchased this **schooner** and converted it for war service as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron on Lake Ontario** in 1812. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 3-gun schooner. Launch: 1809, **Ogdensburg, New York**, as **merchantman Collector**. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr lg, two 6-pdr lg. Dimensions: 50 tons. Crew: 35.

PETERSBURG VOLUNTEERS. The men in this **company of infantry** were **12-month volunteers** under the **Volunteer Military Corps Act** of 6 February 1812. They formed during the summer of 1812 with the support of a public subscription from the town of Petersburg, **Virginia**, to buy uniforms and equipment. It consisted of about 100 officers and men under Captain Richard McRae and formally entered into federal service for a 12-month period on 16 October 1812.

The Volunteers joined the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Harrison** on the lower **Maumee River** late in January 1813 and helped build **Fort Meigs**. They were present during the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July 1813) and at the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August). Although their numbers were greatly depleted by illness and casualties, a pair of the men were at **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), and some of the volunteers were with Harrison when he invaded **UC** on 27 September. At the subsequent **battle of Moraviantown** on 5 October, the volunteers acted as a rear guard. Their term of service ended a few days later, and they returned home to Petersburg the following January.

PETTIPAUG POINT, CONNECTICUT, RAID AT (7 April 1814).

Immediately after an attempt was made to destroy HMS *Hogue* by

means of a **torpedo** off the Thames River, Connecticut, on 25 March 1814, the British sent boats in search of the men who had guided the torpedo within range of the **74-gun ship**. They picked up a single man in a small boat and accused him of the deed. This individual, identified only as “Torpedo Jack,” pled innocent and offered to help the British by guiding them to the village at Pettipaug Point near the mouth of the Connecticut River, 12 miles west of the Thames. Captain Thomas Capel of *Hogue*, temporarily replacing Captain **Sir Thomas Hardy** in command of the **blockade** of the coast, agreed to this, and on 7 April he sent five boatloads of seaman and **Royal Marines** to attack the known refuge of **privateers** and blockade runners. The British landed without opposition, warning the citizens that they would burn the village if challenged in their efforts to destroy the shipping. During the day, they set fire to and sank seven privateers, 12 **merchantmen**, and 10 smaller coasting vessels before returning to their ship. The fate of Torpedo Jack is unknown.

PHOEBE (RN). Captain **James Hillyar** commanded this **frigate** when it captured the USS *Essex* in consort with HMS *Cherub* at Valparaíso, Chile, on 28 March 1814. The *Phoebe* was broken up in 1841.

Type: 36-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1795, Deptford, UK. Actual armament: (1813) 26 18-pdr lg, four 9-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 142' 9" ld × 38' 3" × 13' 5½" dh, 926 tons. Crew: 264.

PHOEBE AND CHERUB VS. ESSEX, NAVAL BATTLE OF (28 March 1814). Late in the summer of 1813, HMS *Phoebe*, Captain **James Hillyar**, rounded Cape Horn and entered the Pacific Ocean in company with HMS *Cherub*, Captain **Thomas Tucker**, and HM Sloop *Raccoon*, Commander W. Black, on a mission to destroy American trading posts in the Northwest (i.e., the Columbia River). Hearing that the USS *Essex*, Captain **David Porter**, had captured a British supply vessel, Hillyar sent the *Raccoon* on to the Northwest while he searched for the *Essex*. The *Phoebe* and *Cherub* found the American **frigate** at Valparaíso on 3 February 1814 but did not attack since this was a neutral port; they began a **blockade**. Taking advantage of a gale on 28 March, Porter tried to elude the British, but his main topmast came down in a squall, and he turned back to port. Seeing their enemy trying to escape, the British felt justified to attack

and battered the disabled *Essex* from a distance beyond the range of the American's **carronades**. Porter and his crew fought valiantly and tried to get closer to their attackers, but after 45 minutes of punishment, they signaled surrender. The American casualties were high: 58 dead and 65 wounded; the total cost to both British **ships** was five dead and 10 wounded. Hillyar repaired the *Essex* and sailed it to England as a **prize**, while Porter and his surviving crew were sent home on **parole** in the *Essex Junior*.

PICKET. Sometimes referred to as an advanced picquet, this was essentially an outlying guard post intended to detect enemy infiltration and provide warning and first defense to the main body of the force.

PICQUET. *See* PICKET.

PICTOU (RN). This **schooner** was the American **letter-of-marque** *Syron* when it was captured. Admiral **Sir John Warren** purchased into the **RN** at **Halifax** in October 1813, renamed it, and **commissioned** it to Lieutenant **Edward Stephens**. Captain **Charles Stewart** of the USS *Constitution* captured the *Pictou* on 14 February 1814 and scuttled it. This vessel should not be confused with a second *Pictou*, which was bought into the **RN** at Halifax in 1814 after its capture as the French *Bonne Foi* (former *Three Friends* and *Zebra*) on 30 July by HMS *Asia*.

Type: 16-gun schooner. Launch: ?. Dimensions: 83' ld × 24' 8" × 10' 6" dh, 211 tons. Crew: about 40.

PIERCE, JOHN (?–1806). This American seaman was on board the American **merchantman** *Richard* on 25 April 1806 off **New York City** when HMS *Leander* (1780), Captain Henry Whitby, fired a shot at the American vessel, ordering it to stop for inspection. The shot threw up a splinter that instantly killed Pierce. The incident provoked considerable American public outrage and became known as the *Leander* (1780) **Affair**.

PIGEON ROOST, INDIANA TERRITORY, MASSACRE AT (3 September 1812). Kickapoo warriors attacked this small settlement about 100 miles south of Indianapolis, **Indiana**, on 3 September

1812. They killed 24 men, women, and children in what was the most effective raid during the native campaign that saw major attempts on **Forts Harrison** and **Wayne**.

PIGOT, HUGH (1775–1857). Pigot joined the **RN** in 1788 as a **captain's servant**, advancing to **midshipman** after one year and **lieutenant** in 1794. In 1802, he became a **commander** and two years later a **captain**, moving into HMS *Orpheus* in 1810.

Pigot was on the **North America Station** in 1812 and spent most of 1813 on the **blockade** of the eastern seaboard.

In the spring of 1814, Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** sent Pigot on a mission to the Gulf of Mexico in preparation for a larger campaign in that region. En route, while in company with HM Schooner *Shelburne*, Lieutenant **David Hope**, Pigot captured the U.S. Sloop *Frolic*, Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge**, off the tip of **Florida** on 20 April.

Pigot's visit to the Gulf shore had a significant effect on Cochrane's plans. The *Orpheus* arrived off the mouth of the **Apalachicola River** (60 miles southwest of modern-day Tallahassee, Florida) on 10 May and spent the next three weeks meeting with representatives of the **Creek** nation, providing them with arms and provisions and gathering information about the situation between them and the Americans. He left there early in June and reported to Cochrane that the capture of **Mobile** would bring 3,000 or more warriors to the British and make an attack on **New Orleans** highly feasible.

Pigot had several **commissions** following the war, eventually rose to **admiral** in 1853, and was **knighted** three times, his final honor being the **KCB** in 1847.

PIKE. A typical pike was an ash staff, nine feet long, tipped with a 13-inch blade, guarded by a 5.5-inch crossbar. In the **British army**, it was issued to the infantry **sergeants** who regularly used it to keep the **ranks** straight, although it was also a deadly weapon at close quarters. Colonel **Zebulon Pike** trained the **Fifteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** to form in three ranks, the third of which was armed with pikes measuring up to 12 feet in length, intended for use in a **bayonet** charge. They also carried cutoff **muskets** slung over their backs. The Fifteenth marched with pikes into the **battle at**

York, UC (27 April 1813), but does not appear to have used them after that date.

Pikes were standard equipment on naval vessels, where they were widely used during hand-to-hand combat.

PIKE, ZEBULON MONTGOMERY (1779–1813). Pike was born in **New Jersey** and began a career in the **U.S. Army** in 1799 as a second **lieutenant**. Between 1805 and 1807, he made journeys of exploration up the Mississippi River and to the southwest that gained him some renown but also involved him in the controversies swirling around his commanding officer, Brigadier General **James Wilkinson**. In 1809, he was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** in the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**.

On 6 July 1812, Pike was appointed **colonel** of the **Fifteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and was part of Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s failed invasion of **LC**, when he led his **unit** during the **skirmish at Lacolle** (20 November 1812).

Pike became a **brigadier general** in 12 March 1813 and was given command of the force that landed to fight the **battle of York** (27 April). Pike's **brigade** was marching to victory when the British detonated their grand **magazine**, debris from which mortally wounded Pike. His remains were preserved in spirits and taken to **Sackets Harbor** for burial.

PILKINGTON, ANDREW (ca. 1767–1853). The record shows that this officer entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1783 and earned his promotion to **lieutenant** in 1791. He saw plenty of action in land campaigns and naval engagements, and when he was posted to **Nova Scotia** in 1809, he had risen to **lieutenant colonel**. During the war, he was the **adjutant general** at **Halifax**, his only active service being in command of detachments during the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815). Following the war, he remained in the army, was made a **KCB** in 1838, and eventually rose to **lieutenant general** in 1841.

PIONEERS. Soldiers delegated specifically to do heavy clearing and **fortification** work with axes, pickaxes, spades, and saws were known as pioneers.

PISTOL. This small sidearm was loaded in the same manner as a **musket** but was reserved for use at very close range. The butt of the pistol was capped with brass so that it could also be used as a striking weapon. In both armies, pistols were issued to all ranks of the **dragoons** and existed in numerous models. For example, the 1805 Harper's Ferry pistol had a 10 1/16-inch barrel with a .54 caliber. The **militia dragoons** of both nations equipped themselves in a similar fashion, and both navies had their own models of "sea service" pistols.

PITTSBURGH BLUES. This was one of the **companies** of American **12-month volunteers**. It was originally organized as a **uniformed** company of **infantry** in the **Pennsylvania Militia** in 1807, captained by James R. Butler, and entered federal service on 1 September 1812. Along with another 12-month volunteer company, the Greensburg Rifles, they marched from Pittsburgh to Franklinton, **Ohio**, to join Brigadier General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** by the end of October. The company played an active and effective role in the **battle on the Mississinewa River** (17–18 December 1812) and in 1813 during the **siege** and later **investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August). Reduced in numbers because of illness and casualties, the Blues received their discharge and returned to Pittsburgh late in August 1813, having been highly praised for their discipline and efficiency in battle.

PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK. Located on the western shore of **Lake Champlain** about 21 miles south of the **LC** border, this town was established in the 1780s and became the key commercial center on the lake. In 1810, its population was about 3,100.

PLATTSBURGH, NEW YORK, NAVAL BATTLE OF (11 September 1814). This was the culminating event in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814). It was to be a combined operation of the three **brigades** of Prevost's Left Division and Captain **George Downie's squadron** against, respectively, Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb's** land forces in the town of

Plattsburgh and Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's** **squadron** in Plattsburgh Bay.

September 11 dawned with Downie's squadron, HMS *Confiance* (1814A), HM Sloop *Linnet*, the **sloop-rigged** *Chub* and *Finch*, and 12 **gunboats** in sight just east of the bay. Macdonough's squadron was anchored in a line pointing north-northeast about a mile and a half from the town, with the U.S. Sloop *Eagle* in the van, followed by the USS *Saratoga*, the U.S. Schooner *Ticonderoga*, and the sloop-rigged *Commodore Preble*; 10 **galleys** and gunboats lay between the warships and the town. Downie's plan was to send the *Linnet* and *Chub* against the *Eagle* while he placed the *Confiance* abreast and then between the *Eagle* and the *Saratoga*. The *Finch* would take on the *Preble*, and all the gunboats would focus on the *Ticonderoga*. In firepower, the British had the edge with a larger number of heavier **long guns**, but this was equaled by the number of heavy **carronades** in the American squadron that played their significant roles in an action that took place mainly within a range of about 300 yards.

The wind was light and, being out of the north, made it difficult for Downie's vessels to reach their appointed positions. Shortly after 8:00 A.M., the American guns opened, to which the British could return little as they sailed head on. It was 40 minutes before the action became general, about which time Downie was mortally wounded and Lieutenant **James Robertson (Walker)** took command, anchoring the *Confiance* about 300 yards from the *Saratoga*. While he was securing this position, the second of two anchor cables was shot through, and the American **broadships** wreaked havoc on the British flagship. The *Chub* was so overwhelmed by shot that it surrendered and drifted through the American line to ground near Macomb's **fortifications**. Commander **Daniel Pring** in the *Linnet* did take the position assigned to him and joined the *Confiance* in blasting the *Saratoga* and *Eagle*, the latter of which lost one of its cables and fell back behind its flagship. Both the *Finch* and the *Preble* withered under the fire and drifted out of the action. The British gunboats failed to press a concerted attack on the *Ticonderoga*. Since most of the *Confiance's* left broadside guns were disabled, Robertson tried to turn the **ship**, but it was unmanageable and had taken too many casualties, and about 10:00 A.M. he hauled down his colors. Pring held on for another 20 minutes.

The British lost about 54 killed and 116 wounded, while the Americans had 52 dead and 58 wounded. All the vessels were shattered, and the crews worked frantically to keep them afloat. Macdonough's superior position at anchor with the wind hampering Downie allowed him to get in the first significant blows. His crews, having been trained and familiar with their vessels and their guns, outperformed the British crews, who had, for the most part, been patched together days before the battle. Like Perry's success at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), Macdonough's victory was remarkable and, given the impact it had on Prevost's invasion, probably more immediately significant.

Prevost and Downie had agreed that when the naval vessels "scaled" their guns (fired them with blank rounds to clean them), the army would launch its attack on Macomb's position. Prevost had built seven **batteries**, and these opened up shortly after 8:00 A.M., to which Macomb's batteries replied. Prevost then sent Major General Thomas Brisbane's brigade against two dismantled bridges on the Saranac River in front of Macomb's fortification. This was meant as a diversion since Major General Frederick Robinson's brigade and Major General Manly Powers with **artillery** and **dragoons** were meant to flank Macomb and attack his rear. The advance of this force forded the Saranac upstream and were engaged by **militia**, while the rest waited for the order to attack. This did not come until nearly 10:00 A.M. and was then quickly countermanded when the flags fell on the British warships.

The next day, the British Left Division hurried back toward **LC**, where Prevost was soon the target of much ridicule. They had lost 35 killed, 47 wounded, 72 taken prisoner, and 234 desertions during the brief campaign. Macomb, like Macdonough, was lauded for what was perceived to be a great victory. His losses were 37 dead and 62 wounded. This was the last significant action in the Lake Champlain valley during the war.

PM. See PROVINCIAL MARINE.

POICTIERS (RN). Captain **John Beresford** commanded the *Poictiers* on 18 October 1812 north of **Bermuda** when it captured the U.S. Sloop **Wasp** (1805), Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, and the



The Battle of Plattsburgh, 11 September 1814. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C10928

prized British *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, after their battle earlier that day. The *Poictiers* was broken up in 1857.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1809, Upnor, UK. Actual armament: (1813) 28 32-pdr, 28 18-pdr, six 12-pdr, 12 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 176' gd × 47' 6" × 21' dh, 1,765 tons. Crew: 480.

POICTIERS CAPTURES WASP AND FROLIC (18 October 1812).

Just after 2:00 P.M. on 18 October 1812, while cruising nearly 300 miles north of **Bermuda**, Captain **John Beresford** in HMS *Poictiers* sighted three sails to the southeast and soon learned that two of the vessels were badly damaged from a recent action. The U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1805), Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, attempted to flee, but the *Poictiers* quickly caught up and after firing several shots forced its surrender around 4:00 P.M. The *Poictiers* recaptured Jones's **prize**, the British Sloop *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, taken by Jones earlier in the day. A gale arose, making the

repair and handling of the warships difficult, but Beresford managed to escort them safely to Bermuda.

POMONE (RN). This **frigate** was part of the squadron of Captain **John Hayes**, HMS *Majestic*, on 15 January 1815, when it intercepted and pursued the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, off **New York City**. The *Pomone* was broken up in June 1816.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1808, Genoa as Franco-Italian *L'Astrée*, captured 1810. Standard armament: 28 18-pdr, two 9-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 152' gd × 40' 2" × 12' 9" dh, 1,093 tons. Crew: 300.

PONCHARTRAIN, LAKE. See BORGNE, LAKE.

POPHAM, STEPHEN (1780–1842). Popham entered the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1795 and was soon made a **midshipman**. As with most of his contemporaries, he saw plenty of action against the French. He earned his **commission** as **lieutenant** in 1801 and was promoted to **commander** in 1811.

Popham arrived at **Quebec** aboard HMS *Æolus* late in October 1813 at the head of a 350-man RN detachment sent to reinforce Commodore **Sir James Yeo**. Popham was sent to **Montreal**, where he and his men were retained to defend that place in the event that Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence** (October–November) succeeded in its goal of attacking Montreal. When that threat passed, Popham and most of his men went to **Kingston** (the others to **Isle-aux-Noix**), where they joined **Yeo's squadron**.

In April 1814, Popham was put in command of HMS *Niagara* (a post **ship**, making him a **post captain**) in which he participated in the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 April), for which he was praised and during which he was wounded. On 29 May, Yeo sent him to look for a convoy of American **bateaux** thought to be carrying materiel from **Oswego** to **Sackets Harbor**; Captain **Francis Spilsbury** was later sent to join Popham. Failing to take Yeo's advice about narrow creeks being dangerous places for ambushes, Popham led his force up Big Sandy Creek, where he suffered a startling defeat in the **skirmish on Sandy Creek** (30 May). Popham was wounded and spent most of the rest of the war in captivity in **Massachusetts**. Details are lacking as

to Popham's subsequent career other than that his rank of post captain was confirmed in February 1815.

PORCUPINE (USN). This vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's** **squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1813, **Erie, Pennsylvania**. Actual armament: one 32-pdr lg. Dimensions: 52 tons. Crew: 30.

PORT DOVER, UC. This village is located on the shore of **Lake Erie** about 60 miles west of **Fort Erie**.

PORT DOVER, UC, RAID AT (14–16 May 1814). Captain **Arthur Sinclair** commanded the naval station at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, during most of 1814. While making plans to transport troops from that place to the army of Major General **Jacob Brown** at **Buffalo**, Sinclair suggested to Colonel **John Campbell** that a preemptive raid on the mills and storehouses near **Long Point, UC**, might facilitate Brown's eventual invasion.

On 12 May, Campbell set out from Erie in several of the small vessels with about 250 men from the **Nineteenth, Twenty-second, Twenty-fourth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, **400 Pennsylvania Militia** (under Colonel James Fenton), and a handful of the **Canadian Volunteers (American)**. Further strengthened by 20 seamen and 30 **U.S. Marines**, the force landed, unopposed, about a mile and a half from **Port Dover** on 14 May, then established a camp and, the next day, burned every mill and storehouse in and near Dover and every private dwelling except one in retribution for the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December 1813), as Campbell explained. They reembarked and landed to destroy mills at nearby Port Ryerse and Turkey Point and departed for Erie on 16 May; Captain Sinclair expressed his disapproval at the burning of private property. The Americans were observed by a **troop** of the **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons** and some **militia** but never engaged.

Reports of Campbell's actions prompted **Vice Admiral Sir Alexander Cochrane** at **Bermuda** to step up his previous orders for similar retribution against American towns.

PORT TALBOT, UC. This village is located on the north shore of **Lake Erie** about 140 miles east of **Amherstburg**. Some period documents incorrectly identify it as “Fort Talbot.”

PORTAGE DES SIOUX, TREATIES OF (July–September 1815).

This village, located on the Mississippi River about seven miles northwest of St. Louis, **Missouri Territory**, was the site of a council meeting for the negotiation of peace between the U.S. government and various aboriginal nations in the summer of 1815. President **James Madison** ordered Governors **William Clark** (Missouri Territory) and Ninian Edwards (**Illinois Territory**) to make peace. Colonel **John Miller** encamped at Portage des Sioux with 300 men of the **Third U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and built quarters for the meetings, where native delegations began to arrive on 1 July. Between then and 18 September, treaties of peace were signed with various tribes of the **Fox**, **Kickapoo**, **Potawatomi**, **Sac**, and **Sioux**. Other nations, including the **Menominee**, **Ottawa**, and **Winnebago**, signed subsequent treaties in this region between 1815 and 1818.

PORTER, DAVID (1780–1843). A native of **Massachusetts**, Porter entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1798. He served under Captain Thomas Truxton during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) was a **lieutenant** in the **USS Philadelphia**, Captain **William Bainbridge**, in October 1803, when it was captured at Tripoli.

He received his **commission** as **captain** of the **USS Essex** on 2 July 1812 and made a successful cruise that summer, during which he became the first officer in the **USN** to capture a British warship, the **Alert**, Commander **Thomas Laugharne**, on 13 August 1812 west of the Azores. Beginning late in October 1812, he set out in *Essex* to join a **squadron** under Bainbridge but missed the rendezvous and made a voyage that took him into the Pacific Ocean, where he established a base at Valparaiso, Chile. He raided British whalers in the Galápagos Islands, capturing 10 of them, one of which he converted into a **tender**, the *Essex Junior*. Porter visited Nuka Hiva Island in the Marquesas Islands and after leisurely enjoying the pleasures of the harbor became embroiled in local conflicts. In November 1813, he declared that he had annexed Nuka Hiva to the **United States**.

Early in 1814, he returned to Valparaiso, where he was soon **blockaded** by HMS *Phoebe*, Captain **James Hillyar**, and HMS *Cherub*, Captain **Thomas Tucker**. When he attempted to escape in the *Essex* on 28 March 1814, the British captured his **ship** after an intense action. Porter was present during the British campaigns against **Washington** and **Baltimore** in the summer of 1814; he attempted to interrupt Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September) with a **battery** on the Potomac but failed.

Porter's postwar career was marked by controversy, and he ended up as a diplomat for the U.S. State Department in Constantinople, where he died of a heart ailment in 1843.

PORTER, MOSES (1755–1822). Porter was born in **Massachusetts** and served as a patriot and **artillery** officer throughout the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). His involvement in the artillery continued after the war and through the development of the **U.S. Army** in the 1790s. In March 1812, Porter was promoted to **colonel** of the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. Major General **Henry Dearborn** ordered him to the **Niagara Frontier** in the autumn to command the light artillery there, and Porter was present during Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November, 1 December). He spent the winter commanding the camps at **Black Rock** and **Buffalo**. By that time, he had earned the nickname of “Old Blowhard” in recognition of his rough language.

Porter was with his **regiment** during the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813) and the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). For his conduct during this time (though the record is thin on this point), he was **beveted** to **brigadier general** on 10 September. He was invited to join Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) but in all these circumstances earned no laurels. Because of sickness or Wilkinson's confused orders, Porter even removed himself and most of his artillery from the scene on the very day that several of Wilkinson's **brigades** fought and lost the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November). He briefly held command of the Ninth **Military District** late in 1813 but was sent to the post at **Norfolk, Virginia**, in 1814. Porter remained in the artillery corps until his death.

PORTER, PETER BUELL (1773–1844). A native of **Connecticut**, Porter was educated at Yale and then studied law, opening a practice at Canandaigua, **New York**, in 1795. He became a successful entrepreneur on the **Niagara Frontier**, was involved in civil affairs, supported the **Republican Party**, served in the state legislature, and was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1808. Porter was identified as a “**War Hawk**,” although by the spring of 1812 he believed that the nation was unprepared for war and that New York would suffer because of it.

A **brigadier general** in the **New York Militia**, Porter served on the **Niagara Frontier** as a **quartermaster general** under Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer**, but his enmity with the general’s politics (Van Rensselaer was a **Federalist**) resulted in halfhearted efforts on Porter’s part. Although he knew of Van Rensselaer’s intentions, he did not get involved in the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812), not even to deal properly with logistical needs. Porter was also dissatisfied with Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth** and his **failed invasion of UC** (28 November) and fought an inconsequential duel with him afterward.

Porter finally saw action at the **raid on Black Rock** (11 July 1813), during which he narrowly missed capture by the British under Lieutenant Colonel **Cecil Bisshopp** and then rallied the **militia, regulars**, and **Seneca** warriors to effectively counterattack Bisshopp’s party. Within a short time, Porter organized a force of about 200 militia volunteers and 200 Seneca warriors with whom he crossed into UC at **Fort George** to join the command of Brigadier General **John Boyd**. This was during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), and Porter and his men took part in at least one of the numerous **skirmishes at the Ball property**.

In the spring of 1814, Porter assembled what became the Third Brigade in Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October). It consisted of about 800 men, including **Pennsylvania Militia**, **New York Militia**, the **Canadian Volunteers**, and warriors from the **Seneca**, **Tuscarora**, **Onondaga**, and **Oneida** nations. During the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July), Porter commanded a portion of this **brigade** in a sharp action on the west flank of the battlefield. His native allies left him after that, and many of Porter’s militia were sent to man posts on the New York side of the river.

Porter ended up leading about 300 New York and Pennsylvania Militia and the Canadian Volunteers into the final phase of the fighting at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), taking and holding a position on Brown's left flank and helping to repulse the repeated British attacks. He continued to serve with notice during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), was present during the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and played a leading role in the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), during which he was slightly wounded.

Following the war, Porter was voted a gold medal by Congress, and he sat again briefly in the U.S. House of Representatives, served on a commission to implement some provisions of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814), and in 1828–1829 was President Quincy Adams's secretary of war. He then retired to private life and ended his days on the Niagara Frontier.

POST CAPTAIN. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

POST SHIP. In the RN, a **sixth-rate** (or higher-rated) warship was a post ship, suitable for the command of a **post captain**. If a post captain was placed in a smaller vessel, it temporarily became a post ship, as did HMS *Confiance* (1796) when **James Yeo** attained "post" rank in 1807 and asked to remain in that vessel.

POTAWATOMI. In 1812, the Potawatomi nation (their name meant "Keeper of the Fire") dwelled in settlements ranging between **Lake Erie** and **Lake Michigan** and westward to the Mississippi River. The people were fully involved in the fur trade and threatened by American encroachments; they fought at the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811). As with most nations, their loyalties were divided before and during the war. The pro-British faction was led by war chiefs such as **Main Poc**, while **Five Medals** favored a neutral stance before the war.

In the spring of 1812, Potawatomi war parties raided American settlements in **Missouri** and **Illinois Territories**. They were the main aggressors in the **massacre at Fort Dearborn** (15 August) and were involved in the actions at **Brownstown** (5 August), **Maguaga** (9 August), **Detroit** (16 August), and **Fort Wayne** (5–12 September).

In 1813, the Potawatomi fought at **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 Janu-

ary), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), and **Fort Stephenson** (2 August). Disenchanted with the British after the latter action, many returned to their homelands, while others encamped near Detroit with Main Poc after Major General **Henry Procter** announced on 18 September his intention to abandon **Fort Amherstburg** and retreat to **Burlington Heights**. Some Potawatomi under **Mad Sturgeon** stayed with **Te-cumseh** and fought at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October). Survivors from there joined the “**Western Indians**” at Burlington and fought at the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March 1814). Some may have been involved in actions in the **Niagara Peninsula** during the summer of 1814 as well.

The Potawatomi in Illinois and **Wisconsin** were involved in scattered raids through 1813 and 1814 until making peace with the Americans at such council meetings as the ones held at **Greenville** (22 July 1814), **Portage des Sioux** (summer of 1815), and **Spring Wells** (8 September 1815).

Among the most prominent Potawatomi chiefs during the war were **Blackbird**, **Black Partridge**, Five Medals, Mad Sturgeon, Main Poc, and **Winnemac**.

POTOMAC FLOTILLA. The British **blockade** of **Chesapeake Bay** began early in February 1813 and was intensified during Admiral **Sir John Warren’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September). Fearing an attack on **Washington**, Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** ordered a flotilla into operation on the **Potomac River** in February. Between then and autumn, it passed through the command of Master Commandant **Arthur Sinclair**, Lieutenant Edmund Kennedy, Lieutenant **George Read**, and Lieutenant Alexander Wadsworth. The flotilla consisted of three **gunboats**, the U.S. **cutter Scorpion (1812)**, and the U.S. Schooner **Asp (1813B)**. The flotilla was crewed by enlistments and officers and men from the U.S. Sloop **Adams** at Washington.

Sinclair made a cruise to the mouth of the river, where, on 10 March, he apparently engaged an American **privateer** by mistake during the night. On 14 July, Read commanded when Warren sent a party from his marauding **squadron** up the Potomac to chase and capture the *Scorpion* and *Asp*. The former escaped, but the latter went into the Yeocomico River, **Virginia** (10 miles from the bay), and was

attacked and set on fire after a vicious fight in which the British lost two dead and six wounded and the Americans had 10 casualties in all. Under fire from the shore, the British left the burning **schooner**, which the Americans reboarded and saved from destruction.

The *Asp* was repaired and kept in service. A **galley** and a small **barge** were added to the flotilla, which patrolled the lower Potomac through the balance of the year without significant incident.

POTOMAC RIVER. From its source in West Virginia, the Potomac flows for 380 miles until draining into **Chesapeake Bay** between **Virginia** and **Maryland**, where its mouth is 11 miles wide. It is best known for the location of **Washington** about 105 miles from its mouth.

POWDER MACHINES. *See* TORPEDOES.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN. This small fur trading post was located in modern-day **Wisconsin** at the edge of the prairie on the eastern bank of the upper Mississippi River about 160 miles west of Milwaukee and **Lake Michigan**. Although in American territory, it was controlled by British merchants and inhabited by French Canadians. Knowing that the Americans might try to seize the post and under constant harassment by **Fox** and **Sac** warriors, fur trader **Robert Dickson** organized the Prairie du Chien Militia under Francis Michael Dease for protection of the community.

PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, OCCUPATION OF (2 June 1814). Governor **William Clark** of **Missouri Territory** was in command of military operations at St. Louis in 1814. He and others were concerned that the British would use **Prairie du Chien** as a base for an invasion down the Mississippi River, and though he did not receive official approval from Secretary of War **John Armstrong**, Clark launched an expedition to seize the trading post. Clark led the force, which consisted of two **companies** of Missouri Militia and a company of the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** traveling in five large boats, two of which were armed. Warriors of the **Fox** and **Sac** nations at **Saukenuk** made a weak attempt to stop the Americans and then offered them a peaceful passage.

Clark arrived at Prairie du Chien on 2 June and found it abandoned; Captain Francis Dease and the Prairie du Chien Militia did not stay to defend the post. Clark ordered the construction of **Fort Shelby** and left the **regulars** with some **militia** to man it while he departed with the rest of the force for St. Louis. The occupation was accomplished without casualties, although in the next few days seven **Winnebago** warriors were killed, allegedly by the Americans.

PRESCOTT, UC. Located 70 miles down the **St. Lawrence River** from **Kingston**, opposite **Ogdensburg, New York**, this small village was a transshipment point where **merchantmen** exchanged cargo with **bateaux** and rafts from **Montreal**. Shortly after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), the British built a **stockaded** fort with three **embrasures** and **garrisoned** the post with available **regulars** and **militia**.

PRESCOTT COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Prescott County was located between the Ottawa River and the counties of **Stormont** and **Glen-garry** in the Eastern District of **UC**. It did not include the village of **Prescott**. One **regiment** of **infantry** was raised in this county.

PRESIDENT (1800) (USN). Under Commodore **John Rodgers**, the *President* was involved in the **President–Little Belt Affair** (16 May 1811). Captained by **Stephen Decatur**, it was captured by a British **squadron** led by HMS *Majestic*, Captain **John Hayes** (15 January 1815). The **ship** was purchased by the **RN** and broken up in 1818; the British built a new *President* along its lines.

Type: 44-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1800, **New York City**. Actual armament: (1813) 32 24-pdr lg, one 18-pdr lg, 22 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 43' 6" × 23' dr, 1,576 tons. Crew: 480.

PRESIDENT (1812) (USN). The **USN** bought this vessel for use on **Lake Champlain**. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 8-gun **sloop**. Launch: ?, **Lake Champlain** as a **merchant-man**. Actual armament: (1812) six **columbiads**, two 12-pdr lg. Dimensions: 61' ld. Crew: about 30.

PRESIDENT (1800)–LITTLE BELT (1801) AFFAIR (16 May 1811). The USS *President* (1800), Master Commandant Charles

Ludlow, flagship of Commodore **John Rodgers**, sailed from **Chesapeake Bay** on 14 May 1811 intending to look for British and French warships said to be interfering with American **merchantmen** along the eastern seaboard. At noon two days later, a warship came into view that Rodgers decided to intercept. Under light winds, the pursuit took up the rest of the day, and Rodgers was not able to make a firm identification of the craft or its strength. In the dark around 8:20 P.M., when the vessels were less than 100 yards apart, their officers hailed one another twice, asking for identification without receiving adequate answers. At that point, they began firing their guns, singly and in **broadside**. Rodgers and his adversary later claimed that the other man opened fire first.

At dawn on 17 May, Rodgers approached the other vessel and learned that he had fired into HM Sloop ***Little Belt*** (1801), Commander **Arthur Bingham**, which had suffered considerable damage to its hull and rigging and had lost 11 dead and 22 wounded. Chagrined that he had engaged a vessel so clearly inferior in strength to his own, Rodgers apologized and offered his assistance. Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** congratulated Rodgers on his conduct immediately following the incident, which was seen as a sort of retribution for the ***Chesapeake–Leopard Affair*** (22 June 1807).

An inquiry convened to investigate Rodgers actions concluded that the British fired the first shot and acquitted him of blame. Bingham sailed to **Halifax** to make repairs. The British government did not make an issue out of the incident, nor did it change its policies about trade restrictions and **impressment**.

PRESIDENT’S (1800) PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF HIGH-FLYER (23 September 1813). After a cruise than began at the end of April 1813 and during which he captured 11 **merchantmen**, Commodore **John Rodgers** in the USS ***President*** encountered HM Schooner ***Highflyer***, Lieutenant **George Hutchinson**, off New England on 23 September 1813 and quickly captured it. He brought it into Newport, **Rhode Island**, as his **prize**.

PREVOST, SIR GEORGE (1767–1816). Of Swiss descent, Prevost was born in **New Jersey**; his father was posted there as a **lieutenant colonel** in the **60th Regiment of Foot**. The younger Prevost was edu-

cated in England and France and joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in his father's **regiment** in 1779. By 1796, he had risen to lieutenant colonel in part because of influence and **purchase** and commanded on St. Vincent in the West Indies, where he saw action against the French and was wounded twice. After a return to England to regain his health, he rose to **brigadier general** in command as the **lieutenant governor** of St. Lucia in 1798. He earned praise from his superiors for his conduct, and this was repeated in 1805, when, as captain general and governor of Dominica, he successfully defended the island against a French attack. Prevost rose to **major general** in 1805, was made a **baronet** the next year, and in 1808 went to **Halifax** as **lieutenant general** and commander of the forces in **Nova Scotia**.

When Sir James Craig left Quebec in 1811, Prevost was made the governor in chief of **BNA**, taking command at **Quebec** on 14 September. War clouds were looming, and Prevost put Major General **Isaac Brock** in charge of the forces and government of **UC**. Late that year and through the following spring, Brock urged Prevost to authorize preemptive strikes against American frontier posts. Prevost prohibited this for several reasons: he hoped that diplomatic efforts would prevent a war, he believed the American public was opposed to war, and he did not want to give fuel to further animosity toward Britain. He did not send Brock all the reinforcements necessary for such operations, as he intended to retain his main force in **LC**, centered at Quebec, which he rightly considered the key to the security of **BNA**.

Prevost did take steps to raise additional military **units** and sent Brock some reinforcements for the defense of **UC** just before and right after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812). His approach received the full approbation of the British government. When news that the government had revoked the **orders in council** reached Quebec, he arranged the **Prevost–Dearborn armistice** in August 1812, which failed. Realizing that the Americans meant to fully prosecute the war, Prevost petitioned the home government for reinforcements, which began arriving in the spring of 1813. Among the most significant of these was the **RN** detachment under Commodore **Sir James Yeo**, which was sent to maintain naval control of the Great Lakes.

Prevost acted as administrator of the government in **LC** and was able to gain the support of the province's key leaders, especially

among the Catholics, who had been disenchanted during Craig's administration. From 1812, the **LC Militia** was reorganized and served with some distinction in protection of the province's frontier.

Prevost was dissatisfied with the military commanders in UC after Brock's death in October 1812. In the upper province, he was the subject of criticism among those who felt he had not provided enough men to properly defend the province. The defeat at **York** (27 April 1813) and the capture of **Fort George** (27 May) exacerbated this situation. The failed **assault on Sackets Harbor** (29 May) left the impression that Prevost, who was present during the action, was overly cautious and unwilling to take the kinds of calculated risks that a more aggressive commander in chief would have taken.

Prevost moved his headquarters to **Montreal** and **Kingston** as the situation warranted, and he made tours of UC in February 1813 and during the next summer. He placed blame on Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** and **Henry Procter** for British failures in 1813, when his own policy of keeping his main strength in LC had left them without the men and munitions they needed.

In 1814, British escalation of the war brought numerous reinforcements to Canada, where Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** had also arrived to take command in UC. Hoping for an **armistice** in the spring, Prevost vetoed Drummond and Yeo's ambitious plan to attack **Sackets Harbor**; the high casualties suffered during their **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May) validated his hesitation about launching a large-scale amphibious attack.

In June, Prevost received orders to strike south of the American border to further secure the defense of the provinces and in support of campaigns on the American coasts. This led to his failed **Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and made him the object of much ridicule among the senior military officers. The correspondence between Prevost and Captain **George Downie** prior to the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September) came to the notice of Commodore Yeo, who informed the home government that he believed Prevost had goaded Downie into action. At the same time, Prevost was under fire from elements of the English elite in LC who complained to London about his policies and conduct. The day after he received confirmation of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) in March 1815, Prevost also received notice of his recall.

Although much of Prevost's management of the war effort was approved by the British government and by such influential figures as the **Duke of Wellington**, he returned home very much under a cloud. Yeo's accusations evolved into charges that required a **court-martial**. This was about to take place early in 1816, when Prevost died. Critics and advocates have debated his defense of Canada ever since.

PREVOST–DEARBORN ARMISTICE (8 August–8 September 1812). News reached **Quebec** on 30 July 1812 that the British government had repealed its **orders in council**, which had so severely damaged American international trade and been a key cause of the war. Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** sent a copy of the dispatch to Major General **Henry Dearborn** at **Albany** and suggested that an armistice be established to allow time for President **James Madison** and his cabinet to deliberate over this news and, possibly, call a halt to hostilities. Dearborn agreed to an armistice and ordered his frontier commanders to cease hostilities on 8 August.

Madison and his cabinet were unmoved by the repeal of the orders in council, in part because it was not accompanied by an order to stop **impressment**, and on 15 August ordered Dearborn to terminate the armistice and energize efforts to invade Canada. Prevost and Dearborn agreed to formally end the armistice on 8 September.

The armistice served to delay British efforts to move aggressively into the **Old Northwest** after the **capture of Detroit** (16 August), much to the frustration of Major General **Isaac Brock**. It also allowed time for the Americans to supply and reinforce their forces, particularly the army under Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** on the **Niagara Frontier**.

PREVOST'S LAKE CHAMPLAIN CAMPAIGN (30 August–12 September 1814). Napoleon's abdication in April 1814 led the British government to send a massive reinforcement to fight the war with the **United States**. As part of its strategy for waging the war, **Lord Bathurst** instructed **Sir George Prevost** to utilize the soon-to-arrive forces to secure the defense of the Canadian provinces by destroying **Sackett Harbor** and the **USN** on the upper lakes and **Lake Champlain** while hopefully holding **Fort Niagara** and possibly regaining **Detroit**. Prevost received this directive in July, and as the troop **ships**

arrived at **Quebec** during the summer, he sent portions to join the Right Division on the **Niagara Peninsula** under Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** while he formed plans to strike into the Lake Champlain valley. He chose the **New York** side of the lake since **smuggling on Lake Champlain** by **Vermont** citizens was playing such a vital role in supplying Prevost's military and naval forces with provisions and shipbuilding material.

Prevost's conceived a campaign that depended on naval and military cooperation. Captain **George Downie's squadron** was still fitting out the newly launched ***Confiance (1814A)***, and Downie had taken command only on 3 September, but Prevost would not wait for him to train his crews under sail and sent his advance troops across the New York border on 30 August. Traditionally, estimates of Prevost's army have risen as high as 15,000, the majority of them supposedly being battle-hardened veterans of the **Duke of Wellington's Peninsular War (1808–1814)** campaigns. A recent study of contemporary documents by the Canadian historian Donald E. Graves reveals, however, that Prevost's army was composed of about 8,100 officers and men fit for duty. Of these, about 2,625 had fought in the **Peninsular War (1808–1814)** (these **units** are marked in the following with *).

As organized by Prevost and his staff, the British Left Division, commanded by Major General **Francis de Rottenburg**, consisted of Major General Frederick Robinson's First Brigade (the **3/27th***, **1/88th***, **1/39th***, and **76th* Regiments of Foot** [only the **light companies** of the first two units were included in the brigade]), Major General Thomas Brisbane's Second Brigade (**2/8th**, **13th**, and **1/49th Regiments of Foot**; **De Meuron's Regiment**; the **Canadian Voltigeurs**; and **Canadian Chasseurs**), Major General Manly Power's Third Brigade (**1/3rd***, **1/5th***, **1/27th**, and **1/58th Regiments of Foot**), and the **19th Light Dragoons** and **artillery (Royal Regiment of Artillery, Royal Marine Artillery, Rocket Corps, and Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers)**. Warriors of the **Seven Nations** also accompanied the expedition.

Advance parties of the Second Brigade arrived at **Champlain**, New York, on 30 August, after which the elements of the Left Division advanced toward **Plattsburgh** by parallel roads. From the first

day, this advance was opposed by **skirmishers** from the **U.S. Army** and **New York Militia**.

Major General **George Izard** commanded the Right Division of the Ninth **Military District** at Plattsburgh and **Burlington, Vermont**. In August, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** had ordered Izard to march his **division** to Sackets Harbor for a proposed operation into **UC**. Knowing that Prevost was gathering an army near the New York border, Izard opposed this directive but finally acceded to it and set out with 4,300 men on 29 August; he eventually joined the latter stage of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October) too late in the season to accomplish anything.

Izard left Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb** at Plattsburgh with about 3,500 **regulars**, but about 1,400 of these were too sick for service, and another 300 had been sent to Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron**, leaving Macomb with about 1,800 effectives. These included elements of the **Sixth, Thirteenth, Twenty-ninth, Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second, Thirty-third, and Thirty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; detachments of the **Corps of Artillery** and the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles**; and a **squadron of New York Militia dragoons**. Brigadier General Benjamin Mooers succeeded in bringing 700 additional New York Militia to Plattsburgh, where they were joined eventually by upwards of 2,500 **Vermont Militia**, many of them ignoring the order from their governor, Martin Chittenden, to refrain from crossing into New York; later, Mooer criticized his men for shirking from the eventual battle.

Macomb worked to strengthen the **fortifications** at Plattsburgh. These were located south of the Saranac River, at right angles to Plattsburgh Bay, and consisted of three strong **batteries** (west to east, Forts Scott, Moreau, and Brown) and two **blockhouses** on elevated ground, joined by earthen **ramparts** with ditches and **abatis** in front.

From the time that the British crossed the border, Macomb sent detachments to harass the columns by skirmishing, blocking the roads, and congesting the forests with fallen timber. This cost the British casualties daily, but they pressed forward and moved into Plattsburgh on 6 September, after which the exchange of fire across the Saranac was more or less continuous.

Downie pushed his men to complete the *Confiance* and join the rest of the squadron on the lake. In a series of notes, Prevost expressed impatience with the delay to Downie, who finally appeared off Plattsburgh Bay at dawn on 11 September. By noon, the **naval battle of Plattsburgh** had been fought with Downie killed and all his warships, except the **gunboat** flotilla, captured. Prevost had begun a multipronged attack on Macomb's fortifications, but at the sight of **RN** surrender, he withdrew his force.

Prevost retreated hurriedly to LC, leaving behind a vast amount of provisions and munitions and some of his casualties. Prevost lost up to 234 men through desertion during the entire campaign, although a recent study of statistics shows that the majority of these were from Brisbane's Second Brigade and that only 15 men were Peninsular veterans, which contradicts the popular understanding. Nevertheless, the Left Division had failed miserably to achieve its goal, and Prevost was widely held culpable for not crushing Macomb's smaller force. The correspondence between him and Downie was brought to the attention of Commodore **Sir James Yeo**, who subsequently pressed charges against Prevost for having "goaded" Downie into action before he was ready.

Macomb, his regulars, and militia were jubilant and, along with Macdonough and his men, were highly praised at having stopped the war's most significant British infiltration across the northern border.

"PRIDE OF BALTIMORE." See *CHASSEUR* (PRIVATEER).

PRINCE EDWARD COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Prince Edward County was located on the Prince Edward Peninsula south of the **Bay of Quinte** and was part of the Midland District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, as was a **troop** of **dragoons**.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. Ruled by the British from 1763, this colony was separated from **Nova Scotia** in 1769 and named after a son of King George III in 1799. Its population in 1806 is estimated to have been about 10,000. Like the other provinces, Prince Edward Island had **militia** but it did not see any action during the war.

PRINCE OF WALES, GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK (1762–1830). The eldest son of **King George III** earned a well-deserved reputation for profligacy and was estranged from his father from the 1790s. Nevertheless, when George III's ill health made it impossible for him to perform his royal duties, his son was required to assume these responsibilities as the Prince Regent, temporarily on occasion and then permanently in 1811, this period being known as the Regency. Although the object of ridicule in society, the Prince Regent's monarchical status required—and received—unquestionable loyalty. He became King George IV on his father's death in 1820.

PRINCE REGENT. *See* PRINCE OF WALES, GEORGE AUGUSTUS FREDERICK (1762–1830).

PRINCE REGENT (1812) (PM/RN). Built by the **PM**, this vessel was taken over by the **RN** in May 1813 and renamed *Lord Beresford*. This vessel was part of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** and participated in numerous actions in 1813 and 1814. It was renamed *Netley* in 1814, laid up in 1817, and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 12-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1812, **York, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) two 9-pdr lg, 10 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 72' 6" gd × 21' 2" × 7' 3" dh, 142 tons. Crew: 98.

PRINCE REGENT (1814) (RN). The large **frigate** was part of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1814. It was renamed the *Kingston* in 1816, laid up in 1817, and later sunk at Kingston.

Type: 56-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 1814, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1814) 28 24-pdr lg, four 68-pdr crde, 24 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 155' 10" gd × 43' × 9' 2" dh, 1,293 tons. Crew: 450.

PRINCESS CHARLOTTE (RN). The **frigate** was part of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario** in 1814. It was renamed the *Burlington* in 1816, laid up in 1817, and later sunk at Kingston.

Type: 40-gun **fifth-rate** frigate. Launch: 1814, **Kingston, UC**. Ac-

tual armament: (1814) 24 24-pdr lg, two 68-pdr crde, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 121' gd \times 37' 8" \times 8' 8½" dh, 755 tons. Crew: 350.

PRINCIPIO FOUNDRY, MARYLAND, RAID AT. *See* HAVRE DE GRACE AND PRINCIPIO FOUNDRY, MARYLAND, RAID AT (3 May 1813).

PRING, DANIEL (ca. 1788–ca. 1847). Pring was born in England, entered the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1800, and immediately began an active career in which he saw action against the French and their allies in Europe, the West Indies, South Africa, and South America. He was made a **master's mate** in 1805 and a **lieutenant** in 1808 in command of HM Schooner *La Paz*. After three years in that vessel and several engagements, Pring served under Vice Admiral **Herbert Sawyer** in HMS *Africa* on the **North America Station** and then moved into Admiral **Sir John Warren's** *San Domingo* late in 1811.

In March 1813, at **Bermuda**, Warren promoted Pring to **commander** and sent him with Commander **Robert Barclay** to take over the **PM** vessels on the Great Lakes. The officers went to **Halifax** and then Saint John, **New Brunswick**, and overland to **Quebec**, reaching **Kingston, UC**, late in April. When Commodore **Sir James Yeo** arrived in mid-May, he made Pring his flag captain in HMS *Wolfe*, in which vessel Pring was witness to the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May) and the actions of **Yeo's squadron** during June and July. Late in the month, Yeo, with full agreement of **Sir George Prevost**, who considered Pring a very competent officer, sent him to take command of the naval force at **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**. The plans for "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August) were being finalized at that time, and Pring joined the expedition and was junior in rank to Commander Thomas Everard, who had brought 80 seamen from Quebec for temporary service. After Everard returned to Quebec, Pring took command at Isle-aux-Noix, petitioning Prevost for permission to build HM Sloop *Linnet* to contend with Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron**, which he had seen at **Burlington, Vermont**.

In 1814, Pring led a raid that resulted in the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May) and got permission to begin building HMS *Confiance* (1814A). Captain **Peter Fisher** arrived in June to supersede

Pring, who remained on station and was present during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). Pring informed Yeo about the circumstances under which Captain **George Downie** led his **squadron** into battle and helped prompt Yeo to allege that Prevost had goaded Downie into action.

Following the war, Pring was advanced to **post captain** in 1815 and held command on the upper lakes in 1816 and 1817 before going on **half pay** for two decades. He returned to sea in 1836 and held command until 1843. After two more years on half pay, Pring was made a **commodore** and senior officer at Jamaica but died in an outbreak of yellow fever either late in 1846 or early in 1847.

PRISONERS OF WAR. Prisoners were taken almost as soon as hostilities began in June 1812. With no formal arrangement in place, both sides followed the long-established conventions of returning some prisoners on **parole** while detaining others for possible later **exchange**; there was little consistency in the systems, however. After the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812), for instance, the American officers, some of the men, and some private citizens were sent in a **cartel** to Detroit, while others were kept at Michilimackinac, where Captain **Charles Roberts** formed them into the **Canadian Volunteers (British)**. After the **capture of Detroit** (16 August 1812) and the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812), the **militia** and a few **regular** officers were freed on parole, while most regular officers and men were sent to confinement at **Quebec** until they could be exchanged.

The British had a well-developed and well-administered system for dealing with prisoners of war; Colonel Thomas Barclay at **New York City** was made the agent for the relief of British prisoners of war in the **United States**. For the Americans, Secretary of State **James Monroe** handled matters at first, but in April 1813, John Mason was appointed the commissary general for (American) prisoners of war and superintendent of alien enemies. Below him were the federal marshals and collectors and foreign agents, such as Reuben Beasley, the agent for American prisoners in England.

Representatives of the two nations signed an agreement on 28 November 1812 for the exchange of naval prisoners and a second agreement for exchanging both naval and military prisoners on 12 May

1813, but neither appear to have been officially approved. As a result, there were variations in the treatment of prisoners, the exchange ratios (i.e., one **rear admiral** or one **major general** for an officer of equal standing or 60 seamen or privates), the liberation of noncombatants (i.e., surgeons, chaplains, women, and children), the certificates for parole, the use of cartels and neutral **ships** to convey prisoners, the exchange of lists, and the stations for exchange. Specific locations were named as stations for exchange, such as Salem, **Massachusetts**, and Liverpool, England, but there were numerous other depots and detentions centers. Many of the British prisoners taken at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813) were confined at depots in **Ohio**, for instance, while other British captured on the **Niagara Peninsula** and **Lakes Ontario** and **Champlain** were detained in and near Pittsfield, Massachusetts. In England, American prisoners were held at eight different locations with **Dartmoor Prison** being the largest and best known. While some facilities were prison compounds, such as **Melville Island** at **Halifax**, others were prison hulks moored in harbors. During their confinement, **commissioned** officers on parole were usually allowed considerable freedom to reside as gentlemen, while the lower ranks suffered in harsh and debilitating conditions.

There were many justified complaints about the infringements to the prisoner-of-war conventions and many exceptions to the rule. For instance, 23 of the prisoners taken at Queenston Heights were suspected of being British citizens. They were charged with treason and sent to England under threat of execution, prompting a “**retaliation**” by the U.S. government; other examples of retaliation took place but none that were this serious.

It is estimated that at the end of the war, the Americans held about 3,500 British and that the British held about 8,000 Americans. As many as 10,000 Americans, mainly seamen from **privateers**, **letters of marque**, **merchantmen**, and the **U.S. Navy**, were held at one time or another in England, many of them in desperate straits. Few of these men were exchanged since their government would not fund their transportation and the British government sought to prevent their reemployment at sea. The two nations exchanged prisoners across the **BNA/U.S.** border much more readily.

PRIVATE. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

PRIVATEER. This referred to a private vessel outfitted with guns and a large crew for the express purpose of raiding and capturing enemy shipping; an individual who served on such a vessel was also called a privateer. The vessels differed from **letters of marque** in that the crews shared in the profits of the “cruise,” although the term “privateer” was generally used to describe both types of operations. Unlike vessels sailing under letters of marque, a true privateer carried no cargo and was, essentially, a privately operated warship that carried government licences, making their actions legal.

American privateers were licensed almost immediately after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), and subsequently over 500 such vessels were in operation with New England, **New York City**, and the **Chesapeake Bay** region (especially at **Baltimore**) being the home bases for most of them. Canadians had to wait until the **British proclamation of war** (9 January 1813) to obtain licenses, although a few obtained letters of marque before that date; 47 such vessels were licensed in **Nova Scotia** and **New Brunswick**, with Liverpool, Nova Scotia, being the busiest privateer port. The lower number was a reflection of the small population base in the **maritime provinces**.

Privateering was a risky business, as the capture rate per privateer was low and the financial risks were high. Nevertheless, some owners reaped enormous profits. These private commerce raiders combined with naval forces to have a significant impact on commerce; in some cases, merchants turned to privateering, as their vessels would have remained idle otherwise.

Typical American privateering vessels were the **schooners** *Atlas*, *Chasseur*, *Dolphin*, *Highflyer*, and *Racer*, while among the most notable British vessels were the *Liverpool Packet* and *Sir John Sherbrooke*.

PRIZE. Britain and the **United States** (and other nations) allowed the enemy vessels and their cargoes that were captured during war to be sold and the resulting funds divided among those involved in the capture. This involved a long and complicated legal procedure with prize agents handling the case for captors and prize courts deliberating

legal issues. Division of the prize money was also complicated with senior officers (including the commander in chief, present or not) receiving the largest portions. Goods captured by military forces were treated in a similar manner. Head money was a fee given for prisoners taken. The promise of prize money lured some men into the **USN** and **RN** and others into the **privateering** business.

PROCLAMATION OF WAR, BRITISH (9 January 1813). The British government gave the **United States** time to consider the implications of its revocation of certain **orders in council** on 23 June, the news of which reached the United States early in August and led to the **Prevost–Dearborn Armistice** (August 1812). President **James Madison** and his cabinet chose to maintain the war stance. After this news and reports of American invasion and naval aggressions reached England, the British government under **Lord Liverpool** advised the **Prince Regent** to officially proclaim that a state of war existed between Britain and the United States. This was done on 9 January in a long explanation of the root causes of the conflict, the part that France played in the various controversies, and Britain's need to protect its sovereignty.

PROCTER, HENRY (ca. 1763–1822). A native of Ireland, Procter entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1781. He arrived in Canada in 1802 and had risen to be **colonel** of the **41st Regiment of Foot** stationed on the **Niagara Peninsula** at the time of the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812). Major General **Isaac Brock** sent him to **Fort Amherstburg** in July to command forces there in opposition to the expected American invasion under Brigadier General **William Hull**. Utilizing the alliance with native forces under **Tecumseh**, Procter launched raids against Hull's supply lines at **Brownstown** and **Maguaga, Michigan** (5 and 9 August), helping to provoke Hull to surrender his army at **Detroit** to Brock on 16 August.

Procter remained at Detroit and was promoted to **brigadier general** in February 1813 and to **major general** in June as well as being the military governor of **Michigan Territory** from August 1812 until September 1813. He continued his offensive operations by sending Captain **Adam Muir** to attack **Fort Wayne, Indiana** (September 1812), and attacking and capturing the advance guard (under Briga-

dier General **James Winchester**) of Brigadier General **William Harrison's Army of the Northwest** near **Frenchtown** on 22 January 1813. American authorities scorned Procter for allowing his native allies to kill wounded Americans following the battle.

His later attempts at preemptive strikes against American outposts by the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May and July 1813) and **Fort Stephenson** (2 August) produced little advantage while weakening his own force; Tecumseh and his followers also lost faith in him. His plan to attack the American naval base at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in coordination with Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** was rejected by Major General **Francis de Rottenburg**, and when Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** captured Barclay's squadron on 10 September 1813 at **Put-in-Bay**, Procter did not begin a retreat to **Burlington Heights** for two weeks. This decision worsened his relationship with Tecumseh and his followers.

Procter's retreat was slow and poorly organized, made worse by his failure to communicate clearly with his officers. Harrison's army followed the British up the **Thames River** valley and caught them at **Moraviantown**, where, on 5 October, they attacked and captured nearly all of Procter's force and killed Tecumseh. Procter escaped with some of his men and was then victim to wide criticism and censure. A **court-martial** found him guilty of mismanaging the retreat and inadequately deploying and leading his men at Moraviantown. Although this decision was later tempered and Procter was only reprimanded, his military career was ruined. He returned to England in 1815, and his name was soon after dropped from the army list.

PROPHET, THE (ca. 1775–1836). The younger brother of **Tecumseh**, this **Shawnee** was born near modern-day Springfield, **Ohio**, and became known as Lalawethika (“noisemaker”). Lacking the warrior skills of Tecumseh, he studied the ways of medicine men and aspired to become a shaman.

In 1805, Lalawethika began having visions in which he saw how the Shawnee could overcome the many difficulties that plagued them. He changed his name to Tenskwatawa (“the open door”) and preached to his tribe members about the virtues of discarding all the habits of the “whites,” ending any alliances with them, and regaining traditional native ways and beliefs in family and nation. His teachings

became popular, and word of his ideals spread through the nations of Ohio and **Indiana Territory**, and he became known as the Prophet. His influence worried American officials, such as **William Harrison**, governor of Indiana Territory, especially when the Prophet developed ties with the British at **Amherstburg, UC**. He was a more important leader than Tecumseh at this point, but in 1809 Tecumseh's star rose as he traveled and spread his ideas about a new confederacy among aboriginal nations.

In 1811, when Harrison undertook his expedition to destroy **Prophetstown**, the village that the Shawnee brothers hoped would become the capital of the confederacy, the Prophet (in Tecumseh's absence) led a preemptive attack on Harrison's force in what became the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November). This ended the Prophet's role as a religious leader, but he remained as a supporter to his brother and a leader among his people.

The Prophet advised his warriors to undertake the **investment of Fort Harrison** (3–16 September 1812), though whether he was present is uncertain. He was with Tecumseh at the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813) but was not involved in the fighting. Similarly, he was present when the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October) took place but was not with his brother when he was killed and later fled with Major General **Henry Procter**'s small party of survivors.

In 1814, the Prophet remained among the **Grand River Six Nations**, supported by **John Norton**. He led one group of warriors to the British position on the **Niagara River** the day after the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July 1814) but then departed with them. His involvement in the war ended there.

The Prophet remained in **UC** until 1825, when he returned, with American government approval, to Ohio. Three years later, he crossed the Mississippi River and ended his days in the vicinity of modern-day Kansas City, his influence among his people having vanished years before.

PROPHETSTOWN. This native village was located north of modern-day Lafayette, **Indiana**, near the junction of the **Tippecanoe** and **Wabash** Rivers. It was popularly named after the **Prophet** (**Tenskwa-tawa**), **Tecumseh**'s brother, who moved their people from Greenville, **Ohio**, in 1808 to build this new village as a spiritual cen-

ter for members of various nations who were followers of the Prophet. Governor **William Harrison** with a force of U.S. **regulars** and **militia** destroyed the village on 8 November 1811, following the **battle of Tippecanoe**. By January 1812, supporters of Tecumseh and the Prophet had rebuilt the village. Harrison ordered a force to destroy it again on 19 November 1812, after which it was abandoned.

PROPHETSTOWN, DESTRUCTION OF (19 November 1812). As part of his campaign to strike back at the aboriginal nations for their attacks on American settlements and posts such as **Forts Wayne** and **Harrison**, Brigadier General **William Harrison** ordered Major General **Samuel Hopkins** to attack **Prophetstown** and other nearby villages. In November 1812, Hopkins led a force of about 1,200 men, mainly **Kentucky Militia**, up the Wabash River from Fort Harrison and destroyed **Prophetstown** and two other villages. The villages were deserted, and the Americans met no opposition, although one party rode into a native ambush on 22 November and suffered 15 dead and three wounded. Hopkins returned to Fort Harrison without further incident.

PROVINCIAL COMMISSARIAT VOYAGEURS. The British formed this “provincial corps” from the **Corps of Canadian Voyageurs** in March 1813 in an endeavor to more effectively organize the convoy service in **bateaux** on the **St. Lawrence River**. The unit stood about 425 strong on paper and comprised experienced voyageurs, or boatmen, many of whom worked for the **North West Company**. This service was in lieu of their normal **militia** requirements. The unit was employed through the balance of the war.

PROVINCIAL CORPS OF LIGHT INFANTRY, LC. *See* CANADIAN VOLTIGEURS.

PROVINCIAL CORPS, UC. *See* UC MILITIA.

PROVINCIAL LIGHT DRAGOONS, UC. When the Militia Act for UC was revised in March 1813, two **troops** of **Provincial Light Dragoons** were created. Captain **William Merritt** commanded the troop commonly referred to as the **Niagara Provincial Light Dra-**

goons. Captain Richard D. Fraser raised the troop that operated in the eastern counties. *See also* UC MILITIA.

PROVINCIAL MARINE. Although the British discussed the need for a permanent naval force on the Great Lakes from the early 1760s, it was the advice of Sir Guy Carleton and Lord Haldimand that led to the creation of the PM in 1778. Operating without affiliation to the **RN**, it consisted of small squadrons of warships on **Lakes Champlain** and **Ontario**, the upper lakes, and the **St. Lawrence River**. After the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), the force diminished in size and strength, becoming essentially a transport service.

In 1812, its officers and men lacked the experience and skill necessary to transform the PM into an effective fighting force. The days of the PM ended in May 1813, when the **RN** personnel arrived on the lakes and took control of the vessels and parts of their crews. They were absorbed into Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, Commander **Robert Barclay's squadron** on **Lake Erie**, and, eventually, Captain **George Downie's squadron** on **Lake Champlain**.

Elements of the PM was involved in the following actions: 1812, **Sackets Harbor** (19 July), **Detroit** (16 August), and **Charlotte** (1 October); 1813, **Frenchtown** (22 January), **York** (27 April), and the capture of the ***Eagle*** (1812) and ***Growler*** (1812) (3 June).

PROVINCIAL ROYAL ARTILLERY DRIVERS (Canadian). In 1813, two **companies** or “**troops**” of **artillery drivers** were formed, the first in **LC** in January and the second in **UC** in March. They were taken from the **LC Militia** and the **UC Militia**, respectively, their purpose being to reinforce the small number of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers** then in Canada. The **UC** company included officers and men who had been part of the province’s “car brigade” formed in 1812; Captain Isaac Swayze was one of the original officers and remained with the new organization. Although officially part of the militia, the “Gunner Drivers,” as they were also known, worked along side the Royal Artillery Drivers and were fed, clothed, and paid on the same scale. Although seldom mentioned in dis-

patches, they participated in the same actions in the northern war as the parent corps.

PSYCHE (RN). The *Psyche* was the only one of the **frigates-in-frame** that was constructed for use in Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** on **Lake Ontario**. It was laid up in 1817, rebuilt during the 1820s, and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 56-gun **fourth-rate**. Launch: 25 December 1814, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1815) 28 24-pdr lg, 28 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 130' gd × 36' 7" × 10' 3" dh, 769 tons. Crew: 300.

PUANT. See WINNEBAGO.

PUNGOTEAGUE CREEK, VIRGINIA, SKIRMISH AT (30 May 1814). Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** learned in the last week of May 1814 that the Americans had erected a **battery** on a bluff at Pungoteague Creek. This was located about 12 miles southeast of **Tangier Island** on the remote piece of **Virginia** extending south from **Maryland** and separating **Chesapeake Bay** from the Atlantic Ocean. To remove this potential threat to his shipping, Cockburn sent a party of several boats in a diversionary attack to Onancock Creek several miles to the north of Pungoteague Creek while his main force of nearly a dozen boats, supported by a couple of **schooners**, headed for the battery. Cockburn gave command of the expedition to Captain Charles Ross of HMS *Albion*, his flagship, where he remained to observe the action. The battery consisted of a number of **field pieces** served by two **companies** of **Virginia Militia infantry** and some **Virginia artillery** under Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Bayley.

Delayed by bad weather and rough water, Ross finally landed around 7:00 A.M. on 29 May with about 400 men (seamen, **Royal Marines**, and about 30 men from the **Corps of Colonial Marines** in their first action) under cover of the naval guns and **Congreve rockets**. Bayley withdrew from the battery, and the British pursued his force, skirmishing with them in the woods, capturing one 6-pdr, and **spiking** another before being recalled. They destroyed the battery and adjacent guardhouse and returned to the shipping, having had one killed and five wounded; the Americans were said to have had

one man wounded. Cockburn reported how pleased he was with the conduct of the Colonial Marines.

PURCHASE. In the **British army**, officers could rise to a higher **rank** by purchasing a **commission** for that rank (up to **lieutenant colonel**), although by 1812 this method was limited by rigid rules and was becoming less prevalent.

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO. This is the anchorage on **South Bass Island**, located about 40 miles southeast of **Amherstburg, UC**, and 14 miles northwest of **Sandusky Bay, Ohio**.

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO, BATTLE OF (10 September 1813). As the summer of 1813 wore on, the British post at **Fort Amherstburg** began to suffer from shortages of food, men, and materiel. Major General **Henry Procter**'s efforts to stop the progress of the **Army of the Northwest** under Major General **William Harrison** at **Fort Meigs** (May, July) and **Fort Stephenson** (2 August) had failed. His native allies were leaving him, and he had difficulties feeding those who remained. From late August, Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** blocked the supply route to **Long Point**, so Commander **Robert Barclay** and Procter decided to reopen the route by battling Perry.

Barclay's squadron sailed from **Amherstburg** on 9 September. It was weakly manned, and its flagship, HMS ***Detroit***, had a battery of various calibers of guns taken from Fort Amherstburg since naval guns and other essential fittings had not arrived from **Kingston** and **York**.

The Americans saw Barclay approaching from the north-northwest early the next morning, and Perry soon had his warships under sail from **Put-in-Bay**. His squadron had been fully equipped with naval **ordnance**, and, while he had fewer **long guns** than Barclay did, his guns could throw about 900 pounds of metal in a single **broadside** compared to about 500 pounds in the British squadron. Perry also had more men, although the sickness rate was very high among the crews.

Light winds kept the squadrons inching toward each other until they were just over a mile apart, and the British opened fire at 11:45

A.M. about 4.5 miles west-northwest of Put-in-Bay. The wind was out of the southwest at that point, giving Perry, in the U.S. Sloop *Lawrence*, the advantage, and he managed to close within 250 yards of the *Detroit* and engage it before 12:30. He was supported by the schooners *Scorpion* (1813) and *Ariel*, which had drawn ahead of the *Lawrence*. The *Niagara* (1813) (under Master Commandant **Jesse Elliott**), in line behind the *Caledonia*, and the other vessels did not keep up with Perry and offered him little support. The British fire from the *Detroit*, *General Hunter*, and *Queen Charlotte*, in line, centered on the *Lawrence*, inflicting major damage and high casualties. Barclay's vessels suffered, too, but more significantly in that Barclay himself was wounded twice and removed from command, and his first officer was killed. On each British vessel except the *Little Belt*, the two senior officers were either wounded or killed during the action.

By 2:00, the *Lawrence* was a wreck and had suffered over 60 per cent casualties. Perry was untouched and left his flagship by boat to take command of the *Niagara* and get it into the action. He sent Elliott to hurry on the trailing **gunboats** and then steered the *Niagara* across the *Detroit*'s bow. The British line fell into confusion under the *Niagara*'s fresh **broadside**s. The other American vessels closed in, and as senior officer on the *Detroit*, Lieutenant George Inglis, RN, surrendered at 3:00.

The British suffered 41 killed and 94 wounded, while the Americans had 27 dead and 96 wounded. This capture of a British squadron, most of which Perry pressed into service immediately, evoked great dismay among the British. It secured American control of the upper lakes and paved the way for Harrison's invasion of southwestern UC and an eventual expedition to recapture **Fort Mackinac**. The victory made a hero of Perry, who enjoyed boundless accolades and honors, but it also embroiled him in the nastiness of the **Perry-Elliott controversy**.

– Q –

QUARTERMASTER GENERAL. This officer was responsible for identifying the route of march and encampments for a military force

and with organizing the camps and quarters for the officers. Their duties often extended beyond these limits, however. Captain **Andrew Gray**, for instance, was the deputy assistant quartermaster general for the **British army** at **Quebec** and had under his responsibility much of the administration of the **Provincial Marine**.

QUASI-WAR WITH FRANCE (1798–1800). This was an undeclared conflict between France and the **United States**, arising from French seizures of American shipping. It resulted in a rapid escalation in the strength of the **USN** and provided the first battle experience for many of the officers and men who would be involved in the War of 1812. American warships captured up to 85 French vessels, and American **merchantmen** fended off numerous attacks by **privateers**; still hundreds of merchantmen were captured by the French. The dispute was settled by a peace treaty in September 1800.

QUEBEC. Founded as a fur-trading post by Samuel de Champlain in 1608, Quebec was the center of government and military command for **BNA** in 1812. Although no census exists for that year, it is estimated that the population was just under 18,000, making it the second-largest city in BNA after **Halifax**.

It is located on the **St. Lawrence River** about 350 miles from the open waters of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. **Fleets** of transports, **merchantmen**, and warships could navigate through the spring ice floes and reach Quebec early in May and depart from there in the autumn; there is ample space in the river for a large fleet of transports and warships. Quebec was the gateway to the interior of BNA, and all the men and munitions sent to **LC** and **UC** during the war passed through the city; **Kingston, UC**, was 335 miles upriver. A successful invasion of **LC** via the traditional campaign routes down the **St. Lawrence** and **Richelieu Rivers** would have made Quebec the key target of the Americans. For this reason, the **fortifications** of the town were improved in advance of the war, and a large force of **regulars** and mobilized **militia** was maintained there. Quebec was the most thoroughly fortified city in North America at the time and remains the only walled city on the continent.

QUEEN CHARLOTTE (PM/RN). The vessel was part of Commander **Robert Barclay's** squadron captured at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on

10 September 1813. It was sunk for preservation at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, in 1815; raised in 1835; and used briefly as a **merchantman**.

Type: 20-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1810, **Amherstburg, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) three 12-pdr lg, 14 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 92' 2" ud × 26' × 12' dh, 254 tons. Crew: 134.

QUEENSTON. Located on the west bank of the **Niagara River**, seven miles south of its mouth, this village, often incorrectly referred to as **Queenstown**, was established in the early 1790s at the northern terminus of the British portage around **Niagara Falls**. It was a prosperous village with about 20 homes in 1812.

QUEENSTON HEIGHTS. This is the portion of the **Niagara Escarpment** above the village of **Queenston**. In 1812, part of it was a forested military reserve, while the rest was mainly cleared, private land.

QUEENSTON HEIGHTS, BATTLE OF (13 October 1812). An American army under the leadership of Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** gathered along the **Niagara River** after the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812) to defend the **Niagara Frontier** and divert British attention away from planned invasions at **Detroit** and on the upper **St. Lawrence River**. After the **capture of Detroit** (16 August 1812), Major General **Henry Dearborn** reinforced Van Rensselaer and urged him to invade **UC**. The **regular** army and **militia** elements of **Van Rensselaer's army on the Niagara** (his total strength was about 6,700 men) were not properly coordinated because of his own lack of military experience and the reluctance of Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth** to support an attack on **Fort George**.

As an alternative, Van Rensselaer ordered the capture of **Queenston**, which was protected by about 450 British **regulars** (two **companies** of the **49th Regiment of Foot** and handfuls from the **41st Regiment of Foot** and **Royal Regiment of Artillery**) and **militia** (**Lincoln** and **York Counties**) under Captain **James Dennis**. About 4,600 Americans were immediately available for the attack. In the first wave of the attack, begun just before dawn on 13 October, Lieutenant Colonel **Solomon Van Rensselaer** led about 350 of the **Thir-**

teenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry, the First U.S. Regiment of Artillery, and New York Militia to land below the Heights. Dennis fought them off, Van Rensselaer was seriously wounded, and the Americans fell back to the beachhead. Order was lost in the American attack plan, and elements of the following **units** crossed eventually into Canada: the **Fourth, Sixth, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **Second, Third, and Light U.S. Regiments of Artillery**; more New York Militia; and companies of **12-month volunteers**.

Around 7:00, the Americans, led by Captain **John Wool**, succeeded in capturing the **redan battery** near the top of Queenston Heights. Major General **Isaac Brock** arrived from **Niagara** and was killed in an attempt to recapture it. Another counterattack failed, and Dennis withdrew from the village. Because of a lack of logistical preparation, the Americans were unable to fortify their position or control the flow of men and materiel across the river. Command was uncertain, too, until Brigadier General **William Wadsworth** (New York Militia) deferred to Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott**.

Forces in **Forts George and Niagara** engaged in a cannonade duel during the morning and early afternoon without significant effect.

Just before noon, a company of Royal Artillery under Captain **William Holcroft** set up in Queenston, shielded by the **light company** of the 41st Foot from Fort George under Captain William Denzly. They fired on the American position from the north, while a party of **Grand River Six Nations** under **John Norton** attacked them from the south and west. Scott was unable to beat off either force.

This allowed Major General **Roger Sheaffe** to gather more of the 41st from Fort George and **Chippawa**, along with more Lincoln and York Militia, and attack Scott's position on the Heights at 3:00 P.M. After a brief resistance, the Americans retreated and then broke, fleeing to the river, but there were no boats to carry them to safety.

British losses were 20 killed and 85 wounded, while the American casualties, though never firmly established, were at least 60 dead and 170 wounded. More than 900 Americans were taken prisoner (23 of whom were sent to England and charged with treason, prompting an American "**retaliation**"). The battle was a total victory for the British, seriously marred, however, by the loss of Brock. It was another

disaster for the **United States** and prompted Stephen Van Rensselaer to resign his command several days later.

QUEENSTOWN. *See* QUEENSTON.

– R –

RACER. *See* SHELBURNE (RN).

RAMBOUILLET DECREE (23 March 1810). This French policy statement was made in retaliation to the U.S. **Nonintercourse Act** of March 1809 and declared the seizure of all merchant vessels under American flags that entered French ports after 20 May 1809.

RAMPART. Usually, a mound of earth raised to cover the insides of a defensive position and forming the foundation for a **parapet** or **palisade**.

RANGERS (U.S.). An act of Congress in January 1812 gave the president permission to raise up to six **companies** of rangers to serve on the frontiers of the **United States** for up to one year. They equipped themselves and were paid \$1.00 per day if mounted and \$0.75 per day if afoot. One company was added in July 1812 and 10 more in January 1813. No field officers were listed for this corps. Members of the Rangers stationed at St. Louis participated in the **skirmishes at the Rock Island Rapids** on the Mississippi River (21 July and 5 September 1814). Michigan Rangers were involved in the **skirmishes at the Longwoods** (4 March 1814) and **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November 1814).

RANK AND FILE. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY. In the **British army**, promotion came with experience, accomplishment, and seniority and by the actual **purchase** of a **commission**. Purchasing a commission

was increasingly rare by 1812, although many officers serving at that time had purchased commissions during their careers.

Essentially, through a variety of channels, an individual began his career with a commission as an **ensign** in the **infantry**, a **cornet** in the **cavalry** (including **dragoons**), and a second **lieutenant** in the **artillery**. These officers and their immediate superiors, the lieutenants, were often referred to as **subalterns**. A **company** usually had several ensigns and lieutenants who aspired to become **captains**, or company commanders. A complete regiment would have 10 captains, one for each company, although there were often extra captains in a regiment, some serving on a general's staff. A **major** (of which there was usually more than one in a regiment) was senior to the captains and had charge of the regiment's drill and readiness for marching and was usually on horseback in action to convey the senior officer's orders quickly. The **lieutenant colonel** (two or more in most regiments) was second in command to the regimental commander, the **colonel**. This latter rank was frequently an honorific appointment, with the senior lieutenant colonel actually commanding the **unit** in the field. Officers who had distinguished themselves might be given a **brevet** promotion, which allowed them to have the new rank while still at the pay level of their previous rank.

When a senior officer commanding a regiment was given charge of a **brigade** (a number of regiments or parts thereof), he was referred to as a **brigadier general**, which was an appointment rather than a formal rank. He could then expect promotion to **major general**, commanding a number of brigades that formed a **division**. Next came the **lieutenant generals**, **generals**, and then **field marshals**.

Below the commissioned officers stood the main body of the army. Senior among these men were the **sergeants**, referred to as noncommissioned officers, who commanded portions of a company or had special duties in the regiment; they directed their orders to the musicians, **corporals**, and the **privates** (**bombardiers** and **gunners** in the artillery). The term "**rank and file**" referred to the men below the rank of sergeant.

The system in the **U.S. Army** closely resembled the British organization; variations included such ranks as a third lieutenant in the infantry. There was no purchase in the American system, colonels

were much more likely to command their regiments in the field, and the highest rank was major general.

RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL. In the **RN**, the position of **midshipman** was the key entry-level placement; some youngsters preceded this appointment by gaining experience and sufficient age as **captain's servants** and, from 1794, as **first-class volunteers**. Warships were rated as to the number of midshipmen they could carry, and a **captain** had some liberty to accept willing individuals. A "mid" did not hold a **commission**, but he might be promoted to **master's mate**, an assistant to the vessel's **master**, with higher pay and more responsibility. Having passed his lieutenantancy exam, a midshipman hoped to receive a commission as **lieutenant**. Numbered in a vessel by their seniority in the service, lieutenants were senior officers in a vessel and eligible for independent commands in **brigs**, **schooners**, **sloops**, and so on. **Commander** (until 1794 **master and commander**, which term the **PM** used until 1813) was the next step up the promotion ladder; any vessel commissioned to him was rated as a **sloop-of-war**. Next, the officer was "posted" on the captains' seniority list and thereby became a "**post captain**," commanding a **sixth-rate** or higher warship. As a post captain, the officer might be given a temporary command of several vessels, or a station, with permission to use the title **commodore** (an appointment, not a rank). His name rose slowly up the captains' list, and if he lived long enough he could rise to become an **admiral** and command a **fleet** or a portion of a fleet. In ascending order of seniority, there were **rear admirals**, **vice admirals**, and admirals, each class of which was subdivided into blue, white, and red **squadrons**. The most senior officer was admiral of the fleet.

In the **RN**, the master of a **ship** was a **warrant** officer rather than a commissioned officer and was in charge of navigation and pilotage, a senior position. Other warrant officers included pursers, surgeons, chaplains, gunners, boatswains, and carpenters. Below these men were the petty officers: surgeon's mates, gunner's mates, carpenter's mates, and so on. Finally came the ratings: able seaman, ordinary seamen, landsmen, and boys.

The **USN's** system was similar to the **RN** system. Midshipmen were taken on by captains, but they were warranted. A mid did not

have to sit through an oral exam before being considered for a lieutenant's commission. Each lieutenant hoped to be promoted to **master commandant** (equivalent to the RN "commander") with a commission in a sloop-of-war. Captain was the most senior rank in the USN. There was no formal list of "posted" captains in the USN, but seniority was an issue among the officers who often referred to the rank as "post captain." A captain might be given the appointment (not a rank) of commodore if he commanded several vessels or a station. The honorific was usually used thereafter, whatever the officer's command might be. The USN did not use the rank of admiral until the Civil War. Commissioned officers also included surgeons, surgeon's mates, and pursers.

Another entry point for command in the USN was the warrant rank of **sailing master** (roughly equivalent to the RN "master"), which was used to bring experienced merchant officers into the USN. A sailing master could command a **gunboat** or other small vessel. His advancement to commissioned status was open but very narrowly. The petty officer stations and ratings in the USN and RN were very similar.

RAPPAHANNOCK RIVER PRIZES (3 April 1813). During Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813), the British made their first foray up the bay on 1 April and the next day spotted four large **schooners** and another vessel and chased them into the Rappahannock River, which empties into the bay about 40 miles north of **Hampton, Virginia**. Since it was too shallow for the warships, Warren anchored his **squadron** off the river and sent five boats manned with seamen and **Royal Marines** under Lieutenant James Polkinghorne to capture the vessels.

Polkinghorne rowed 15 miles up the river through the night and, discovering four of the five vessels anchored in line close to shore, attacked them at first light. Three of the vessels were taken or surrendered relatively easily, while the last withheld the British for more than an hour before yielding. The British suffered two killed and 11 wounded, while the Americans had six dead and 11 wounded. The schooners proved to be the **letters of marque Arab, Lynx, and Racer** and the **privateer Dolphin**, which were immediately taken in War-

ren's **fleet** and used three days later in the capture and destruction of nine other American vessels.

RATTLESNAKE (USN). Purchased into the **USN** in 1813, renamed and **commissioned** to Lieutenant **James Renshaw** in January 1814, this **brig** was captured on 22 June 1814 off Sable Island by HMS **Leander** (1813), Captain **Sir George Collier**. Evidence is lacking about the fate of the *Rattlesnake*.

Type: 14-gun brig. Launch: Medford, **Massachusetts**, as the **privateer Rambler**. Actual armament: six 9-pdr lg, eight 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 278 tons. Crew: about 90.

RAVEN (USN). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** captured the British **merchantman Mary Hatt** near **Kingston, UC**, on 11 November 1812 and converted it for war service in 1813. It was sold in 1815.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1810, **Oswego, New York**, as the merchantman *Mary Hatt*. Actual armament: (1813) one 18-pdr lg. Dimensions: 50 tons. Crew: about 30.

RAZÉE. In order to create **ships** that could contend with the speedy and heavily armed American **frigates**, such as the USS *Constitution*, the British "razéed" (derived from the French *rasée*, meaning to reduce the size of a ship) three **74-gun ships**. HMS *Majestic*, for example, had the upper parts of its hull removed and its remaining upper deck rearranged. Its **broadships** were reduced to 28 32-pdr lgs on the main deck with 28 42-pdr crdes on the upper deck along with a pair of 12-pdr chase guns, and the ship's sailing qualities were improved.

READ, GEORGE C. (1787–1862). Irish by birth, Read entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1804. He was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1810 and was in the USS *Constitution*, Captain **Isaac Hull**, on 19 August 1812, when it met and captured HMS *Guerrière*, Captain **James Dacres**. Read went on board the British **ship** and was ordered to set it afire after the removal of prisoners.

Read briefly commanded the **Potomac flotilla** in mid-1813 and then was given command of the U.S. Schooner *Vixen* (1813), which was captured by HMS *Belvidera*, Captain **Richard Byron**, on 25 De-

cember 1813. A **court-martial** acquitted him of blame for the loss of his vessel, and he was sent to **Sackets Harbor**, where he later received orders to go to **Baltimore** to join Captain **Oliver Perry**, who was overseeing the building of the USS ***Java*** (1814).

Following the war, he continued his active career in the navy, being promoted to **master commandant** in 1816, **captain** in 1825, **commodore** in 1845, and **rear admiral**, retired, one month before his death.

REAR ADMIRAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

RED JACKET (ca. 1750–1830). Born near modern-day Geneva, **New York**, this member of the **New York Six Nations** was first known as Otetiani (“always ready”). The name suited him, as he was an active warrior who served as a messenger for the British during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and took his best-known name from a uniform coat they gave him.

Remaining in New York following the war, Red Jacket rose to prominence as an orator and assumed the new name of Segoyewatha (“he who keeps them awake” or “he who makes them look for it in vain”) and participated in numerous negotiations with American authorities regarding treaties and land claims.

During the War of 1812, Red Jacket spoke on behalf of the **Seneca** of Buffalo Creek when discussing their involvement in the fighting. He appears to have been present, fighting for the Americans, during the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July 1814), after which a meeting with representatives of the **Grand River Six Nations** caused many of the **Six Nations** warriors on both sides of the border to withdraw from the fight. He remained a leader of distinction until his death.

REDAN BATTERY. This was an **artillery** emplacement featuring a V-shaped **breastwork** with the **embrasure** at its vertex. Such **fortifications** were usually built on riverbanks, and a number of them side by side would resemble the blade of a handsaw.

REDOUBT. A redoubt was a square towerlike structure with **loopholes** and **embrasures** cut in it, often surrounded by a **fosse** and built outside a **fortification**.

REED, GEORGE W. (?–1813). Reed received his **commission** as **lieutenant** in 1803. He was posted to the U.S. Brig *Vixen* (1803) in September 1812 at Sunbury, **Georgia**, and set out on a cruise but in five weeks did not make any captures. On 22 November 1812, his **brig** was captured by HMS **Southampton**, Captain **Sir James Yeo**, after a brief pursuit. Both vessels were lost within the week when they ran onto a shoal in the Bahamas. Reed died while still a **prisoner of war** at Spanish Town, Jamaica.

REGIMENT. This term was often used interchangeably with the terms “**battalion**” and “**unit**.” It identified a force consisting of between 600 and 1,000 men in 10 **companies** when at full strength. It was commanded by a **colonel**. In the **British army**, many regiments had two (or more) battalions.

REGIMENT OF LIGHT ARTILLERY (U.S.). This **regiment** was created in April 1808 and intended to comprise 10 **companies** of **horse artillery**. Its horses were sold in 1809, and during the war only some companies were mounted, the rest serving as **field artillery** or **infantry**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in the First, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Eighth **Military Districts**, although the record for 1814 showed it recruiting in **Massachusetts**.

Elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October) and **Smyth’s failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Fort Meigs** (May), **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (17 July), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2 November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May) and the last stage of Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were Abram Eustis, John Fenwick, and **Moses Porter**.

REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS (U.S.). This **regiment** was created in March 1814 by consolidating the **First** and **Second U.S. Regiments of Light Dragoons** to comprise eight **companies**.

Elements of the regiment were present during the following actions in 1814: Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October), and the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August).

REGULAR FORCES. This term referred to elements of a nation's armed forces, such as the **British army**, the **RN**, the **U.S. Army**, and the **USN**.

REINDEER (RN). This vessel was **commissioned** to Commander **William Manners** when it was captured by the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813B), Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley**, on 28 June 1814 in the English Channel. The *Reindeer* was so badly damaged that Blakeley ordered it burned.

Type: 18-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1804, Blackwall, UK. Actual armament: (1814) two 9-pdr lg, 16 24-pdr crde, one 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 100' ud × 30' 6" × 12' 9" dh, 382 tons. Crew: 121.

“REMEMBER THE RAISIN!” The Raisin was another name for **Frenchtown**, the tiny settlement on the bank of the Raisin River in **Michigan**. This battle cry was taken up by American forces, especially those from **Kentucky**, following the British victory at Frenchtown on 22 January 1813. The Americans lost more than 400 dead in this action, many of them butchered after the battle by native forces. To remind themselves of the revenge they wanted for this massacre, Americans urged one another to “Remember the Raisin!”

RENSHAW, JAMES (?–1846). Renshaw entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1807. He was given the U.S. Brig *Rattlesnake* in January 1814 and started a cruise in May in the West Indies, where an unidentified **frigate** chased the **brig** for the better part of a day, causing Renshaw to jettison all but two of its guns. Having evaded the frigate, Renshaw continued his cruise, taking a number of **prizes** but on 11 July 1814 off Sable Island was captured by HMS *Leander* (1813), Captain **Sir George**

Collier, after another chase in which Renshaw jettisoned his last two guns and other objects in an attempt to lighten his vessel. Renshaw surrendered after Collier fired several damaging shots at the brig.

Absolved of blame for the loss of his vessel, Renshaw advanced to **commander** in December 1814 and **captain** in 1825.

REPUBLICAN PARTY. Properly known as the Democratic-Republican Party, this political party and the **Federalist Party** developed during the 1790s as factions formed among the political leaders of the fledgling **United States**. During the administrations of George Washington (1789–1797) and John Adams (1797–1801), it acted as the liberal-minded opposition to the generally Federalist policies seen to favor a too-strong central government and the needs of the privileged few over those of the common man. Under President **Thomas Jefferson** (1801–1809) and then **James Madison** (1809–1817), the Republicans set the course of the nation, favoring among many varied policies a reduction of the national debt and a diminution of the **U.S. Navy** and **U.S. Army**. They also began to champion a strong central government, growth in agriculture and manufacturing, expansion westward, and good relations with France. Its main strength came from the southern and western states, although it drew support from the North and East as well. A number of factions, such as the “**War Hawks**,” the “**Invisibles**,” and the “**Clintonians**,” divided the party, making it difficult for Madison to achieve consensus on numerous issues. Ultimately, however, the party’s voting record showed considerable unity during the war.

Among the many other influential Republicans during the war were **John Armstrong**, **Henry Clay**, **Albert Gallatin**, **William Jones**, **James Monroe**, **Samuel Smith**, Simon Snider, and Daniel Tompkins.

RESTRICTIVE SYSTEM. This term referred to the series of laws enacted during the administrations of **Thomas Jefferson** and **James Madison** to retaliate against European interference with American trade before the war and to prohibit **license trade** with the British during the war. It included the **Nonimportation Act** (1806); the **Embargo Acts** of 1807, 1812, and 1813; the **Nonintercourse Acts** of

1809 and 1815; and the **Enemy Trade Bill** of July 1812. Two pieces of legislation revoked these acts in March 1815.

RETALIATION. In the absence of a mutually approved and consistent system for the treatment and **exchange** of **prisoners of war** during the war, numerous complaints were made about the handling of individuals and groups. The largest controversy came after the British took over 900 prisoners of war at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812). Officials determined that 23 of these men were British subjects who had taken up arms against the king, which was treason since the British believed that no one born in Britain had the right to switch nationalities; the **United States** had allowed naturalization from 1790. Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** ordered the 23 prisoners sent to England, where they were to be tried and possibly executed.

This prompted an appeal from the U.S. government that was refused, and in May 1813, Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered Major General **Henry Dearborn** to put 23 British prisoners in close confinement as “hostages” until Britain relented in its harsh treatment of the 23 Americans. In response, **Lord Bathurst** ordered Prevost to detain in close confinement 46 American **commissioned** officers and **rank and file** and inform the U.S. government that if one of the 23 British were killed, two Americans would be executed in retribution. President **James Madison** then ordered the close confinement of 46 commissioned officers already in captivity and put a sentence of death on their heads if any of the American hostages were killed.

After the **battle of Beaver Dams** (24 June 1813), the British sent 59 suspected British citizens from the **Fourteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** to England under the same conditions, resulting in a similar number of British regulars taken at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813) delegated for close confinement.

The two sides began to soften their positions in the spring of 1814, in part through the mediation of Brigadier General **William Winder**, who was one of the American officer hostages at Quebec. By mid-July, the exchange of all the hostages was negotiated, except for the 23 Queenston Heights prisoners, who, minus two men who had died, did not return to the **United States** until July 1815.

RHEA, JAMES. A resident of **New Jersey**, Rhea joined the **U.S. Army** as an **ensign** in 1799 and had advanced to the rank of **captain** in the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** by 1807. He commanded a small detachment of his **regiment** at **Fort Wayne** in 1812 but was removed from command for drunken incompetence by his subordinate officers during the native **investment** of the fort early in September 1812. He resigned from the army the following December.

RHODE ISLAND. Rhode Island was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Providence. In 1810, its population was about 77,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—0 for, two against; U.S. Senate—0 for, two against. During the war years, its governor was William Jones (**Federalist**, 1811–1817), an opponent of the administration of President **James Madison**.

RHODE ISLAND MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 4,200 officers and men in the **standing militia**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, Rhode Island's quota was 500. Governor William Jones, joining with the **Federalist** governors of **Connecticut** and **Massachusetts**, refused to activate the men at first, declaring that the federal government did not have the right to order it. Detachments from the various **regiments** eventually **garrisoned** posts, such as Fort Adams at Newport, in coordination with the **U.S. Army**, as a guard against British attacks. No attacks came, but the state ran up sizable bills keeping the detachments in the field. The state's quota in the July 1814 federal call for militia mobilization was again 500.

RIALL, PHINEAS (1775–1850). Riall joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in January 1794 and by December of that year was a **major** through **purchase**. His first experience in battle in command of **brigades** was in the West Indies in 1809. Promoted to **major general** in June 1813, Riall had won the praise of the **Duke of York** and was ordered to Canada with Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**.

When Drummond reached the **Niagara Peninsula** in December 1813, he decided to strike at the American forces on the **Niagara**

Frontier. Riall commanded the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December) and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December), during which British forces seized large amounts of stores and burned much military and private property, laying waste to the Niagara Frontier.

Riall began 1814 in command of the Right Division on the Niagara Peninsula. He hurried to oppose the American invasion under Major General **Jacob Brown** in July and led the British at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July). Here he misjudged the ability of the American troops (notably those under Brigadier General **Winfield Scott**) and, after suffering heavy casualties, withdrew to **Fort George**. As Brown moved toward **Fort George**, Riall pulled most of its strength toward **Burlington Heights** and then, as commanded by Drummond, moved forward when Brown withdrew to **Chippawa**. Drummond left **Kingston** for **York** and then went to **Niagara**, ordering Riall to put elements of the Right Division in motion in preparation for a confrontation with Brown. Riall occupied **Lundy's Lane** near the falls of Niagara early on 25 July but retreated when he heard that Brown was advancing. Drummond stopped this and sent his forces back to Lundy's Lane, resulting in the vicious night battle there. Riall was badly wounded in the arm during the early stages and while leaving the field under escort was captured. He was eventually confined with other British prisoners in a village in **Massachusetts**. Riall returned to England from the **United States** on **parole** in December 1814. He did not have another active command but was **knighted** in 1833 and rose to the rank of full **general**.

RICE LAKES. *See* TYENDINAGA.

RICHELIEU RIVER. This 75-mile-long waterway drains **Lake Champlain** and flows northward across Quebec, **LC**, to the **St. Lawrence River** at Sorel. During the war, it was occasionally referred to as the Sorel River. In 1812, the British had several posts along its length, at **Odelltown**, **Lacolle**, **Isle-aux-Noix**, and St. Jean.

RIFLE. As a more accurate alternative to the **musket**, the rifle had been under development for decades. The inside of a rifle's barrel was scored with a series of fine, spiraling grooves (known as rifles,

threads, or rays), effecting about one-quarter of a turn in 30 inches. When fired, the **ball**, which was usually wrapped in a patch and tightly rammed into the barrel, took on a spinning trajectory, increasing its accuracy. This accuracy more than made up for the slower loading procedure and made the rifle a specialized weapon for use by **light infantry**, the **rifle regiments** of both nations, and **battalions** of rifles in the U.S. **militia**. The best-known British model was the Baker rifle, which had an overall length of 46 inches and, commonly, a .653 caliber. The most widely used rifle in the **U.S. Army** was the 1803 Model, which had a barrel length of 33 inches and a .54 caliber.

RIFLE REGIMENT (British army). *See* 95TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army).

RIFLE REGIMENT (U.S. Army). *See* FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES.

RIPLEY, ELEAZAR WHEELOCK (1782–1839). New Hampshire was Ripley's birthplace. He was educated at Dartmouth College and undertook the practice of law in **Maine** Territory. From 1807, he served in the legislature of **Massachusetts** and was living in **Portland, Maine**, in 1812, when he accepted a **commission** as **lieutenant colonel** of the newly formed **Twenty-first U.S. Regiment of Infantry**. He raised the **unit** in New England and then marched it to **Plattsburgh, New York**, in time to participate in Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s weak attempt to invade **LC**, which ended with the **skirmish at Lacolle** (20 November 1812).

Ripley was promoted to **colonel** in March 1813 and took his **regiment** to **Sackets Harbor**, from where it went with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** as part of the force at the **battle of York** (27 April). Ripley's **unit** had been well trained and performed efficiently. The Twenty-first was also present during the **battles of Fort George** (27 May) and **Stoney Creek** (6 June) and through the long British **blockade of Fort George** (July–October). Ripley led his regiment during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November) and, at the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November), the unit again performed well.

He was made a **brigadier general** on 15 April 1814 and sent to

Buffalo, where he joined Major General **Jacob Brown's** Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** with command of a **brigade** and participated in **Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October). Ripley's brigade was present at the bloodless **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July), and only a small portion of it saw action during the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July). At the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), Ripley's brigade came into the action after **Winfield Scott's** had been shattered. He deployed his men effectively, following Brown's orders, and formed the main strength that held the line on Lundy's Lane until the British retreated and the fighting ended. With both Brown and Scott indisposed by wounds, command devolved onto Ripley. Confusion in orders and the chaos of night on a battlefield led to the loss of all but one of the captured British guns. Ripley did not execute Brown's order the next morning to renew the conflict, earning a sharp rebuke in return.

Brown and Ripley had argued since early in the campaign, and Brown was pleased to pass command to Major General **Edward Gaines** when he arrived early in August. Ripley continued to serve through the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) and was praised for his part in the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August). During the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), Brown reluctantly gave Ripley command of a reserve column meant to cover the main body's withdrawal. When the British counterattacked, Ripley's force came into action, and he was severely wounded, ending his war service.

For his service during the Niagara campaign, Congress voted its thanks to Ripley and ordered a gold coin struck bearing his likeness. However, Brown's dissatisfaction with Ripley bloomed into a feud, and the latter demanded an inquiry into his conduct. For political reasons, President **James Madison** forbade the inquiry. Ruffled feathers took a long time to smooth, and it was not until 1834 that Ripley received his gold medal. He left the army in 1820, made his home in **New Orleans**, resumed his law career, and served as a state senator and then as a member in the U.S. House of Representatives for one term before his death.

RIVER RAISIN, MICHIGAN. *See* FRENCHTOWN.

RIVER RAISIN, MICHIGAN, BATTLES OF. *See* FRENCHTOWN, FIRST AND SECOND BATTLES OF.

RN. *See* ADMIRALTY.

RN STATIONS. When the war began, the **RN** operated four stations on or near North America, each commanded by an **admiral**: the **North America Station** at **Halifax** and **Bermuda**, the **Newfoundland Station** at St. John's, the **Jamaica Station**, and the **Leeward Island Station** at Barbados. Vessels from each station became involved with American warships and shipping from June 1812. Vice Admiral **Herbert Sawyer** at Halifax had most direct contact with the Americans. His term was ending, however, and in September 1812 Admiral **Sir John Warren** arrived to take over from him. The **Admiralty** reorganized its administration because of the war and, combining the Jamaica Station and Leeward Island Station under the loose descriptor "**West Indies Station**" with its base at **Bermuda**, placed it under Warren's command along with the North America Station; he also had responsibility for the RN detachments on the Great Lakes under Commodore **Sir James Yeo**. This proved to be an impractical, unwieldy command, and when the Admiralty replaced Warren with Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** in November 1813, it reverted to its former organization; Yeo, as **commodore**, was made commander in chief on the lakes with direct responsibility to the Admiralty.

ROBERTS, CHARLES (ca. 1772–1816). Roberts entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1795 and was a **captain**, by **purchase**, in 1801. Hard service in the West Indies ruined his health, and he eventually transferred into the **10th Royal Veteran Battalion** in 1807. Posted to Canada in 1807, Roberts commanded the small force at **St. Joseph Island** in 1812 and, acting on instructions from Major General **Isaac Brock**, captured the American post on **Michilimackinac Island** on 17 July. He created the **Michigan Fencibles** and the **Canadian Volunteers (British)** as a means of reinforcing his weak force of **regulars**. Because of ill health, he gave up his command in September 1813 and returned to England, where he resigned his **commission** in 1815.

ROBERTSON (WALKER), JAMES (1783–1858). Born in Scotland, Robertson entered the **RN** as an able-bodied seaman in April 1801

and within weeks was made a **midshipman**. He saw continuous service afloat thereafter, with frequent action against the French and their allies, including a term on HMS *Victory* during the battle of Trafalgar (21 October 1805). Despite such experience, promotion came slowly to Robertson; he passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1805 but did not get a **commission** in this rank until 1809.

In the winter of 1814, he was assigned to the RN detachment sent to join Commodore **Sir James Yeo** on the Great Lakes. He served under Captain **George Downie** in HMS *Montreal* that summer and went with him at the end of August to **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**, where he was first lieutenant in Downie's *Confiance* (1814A). When Downie was killed in the opening phase of the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September), Robertson took command, but because of the damage and casualties suffered in the *Confiance*, he was compelled to surrender to Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough**. Robertson and the other British officers, including Commander **Daniel Pring**, were exonerated of blame for the defeat during a **court-martial** in February 1815.

Robertson was immediately promoted to **commander**, but he was never able to acquire another commission afloat. In 1824, he married Ann Walker and from that day assumed her surname. While on **half pay**, he was promoted to **post captain** in 1851.

ROCK ISLAND RAPIDS, FIRST SKIRMISH AT THE (21 July 1814). This stretch of rough water was located on the Mississippi River near modern-day Moline, **Illinois**, and about 100 miles south of **Prairie du Chien**. Nearby was **Saukenuk**, a village of the **Sac** and **Fox** nations.

When **Missouri Territory** Governor **William Clark** returned to St. Louis after accomplishing the **occupation of Prairie du Chien** (2 June 1814), he sent a force upriver to reinforce the newly built **Fort Shelby**. It consisted of 42 men of the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and 66 U.S. **Rangers** under Captain John Campbell (**First U.S. Regiment of Infantry**) traveling in five large boats. On 18 July, Campbell's force reached the Rock Island Rapids, where it was delayed by bad weather and mishaps.

Early on 21 July, a large party of warriors of the Fox, **Kickapoo**, and Sac nations attacked Campbell's force. During the skirmish, the

boatload of Missouri Militia who had fled the British attack on Fort Shelby on 17 July arrived on the scene and entered the fight. It ended with the Americans escaping downstream, having suffered 17 killed and 26 wounded. The natives apparently suffered two dead.

Campbell reported his defeat to Clark at St. Louis, where Lieutenant Joseph Perkins soon arrived with his men, on **parole** after their capture by the British at Fort Shelby on 20 July.

ROCK ISLAND RAPIDS, SECOND SKIRMISH AT THE (5 September 1814). When reports of the British **siege of Fort Shelby** (17–20 July 1814) and the **skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (21 July) reached St. Louis, Brigadier General **Benjamin Howard**, who had assumed command from **Missouri Territory** Governor **William Clark**, sent another expedition upriver to destroy the village and crops of the **Sac** and **Fox** nations at **Saukenuk**. Major **Zachary Taylor** led the force, which consisted of 430 (one **company** of probably the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** with some U.S. **Rangers** and **Missouri Militia**), in eight large boats.

They arrived at the Rock Island Rapids on 4 September and the next day were attacked by 1,200 warriors of the **Fox**, **Kickapoo**, **Sac**, **Sioux**, and **Winnebago** nations under **Black Hawk**, who received significant support from about 25 men of the **Michigan Fencibles** and the **Mississippi Volunteers** from **Fort McKay** with a 3-pdr **field gun** and one **Royal Regiment of Artillery sergeant**. Although Taylor's force fought back with determination and charged their foe, they suffered heavily (15 killed and wounded) and finally withdrew to their boats and headed downstream in defeat. The native casualties were not disclosed.

ROCKET BOAT. During Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake campaign** (March–September 1813), rocket boats were employed for inshore activities. These were regular **ships'** boats, specially outfitted so that tripods for firing **Congreve rockets** could be rigged to one mast while the sail on a second mast was thoroughly soaked with water and protected the crew from the blast. They were again used in the Chesapeake during engagements in 1814, such as the **skirmish off Cedar Point** (1 June).

Commodore **Sir James Yeo** proposed the use of rocket boats on **Lake Ontario** in the spring of 1814.

ROCKET CORPS. This was a **company** of **Royal Marine Artillerymen** trained in the operation of **Congreve rockets**. It was attached to the First Battalion of the **Royal Marines** and during 1814 participated in the actions at **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), **Oswego** (5–6 May), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August) the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October), **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September, and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Given the wide use of rockets during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September), it is likely that some of the Rocket Corps participated in the **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown** (6 May), and the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June) and the **capture of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June).

In 1814, rockets were frequently used by Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** at such incidents as the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (31 May), and the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June). Although not specifically mentioned, it is assumed that the Rocket Corps were present at these events and during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September).

ROCKET SHIP. In 1814, the **RN** had two vessels specially fitted to fire **Congreve rockets**. One of them, the ***Erebus***, was used in 1814 during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September).

ROCKET TROOP. *See* ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY.

ROCKETS. *See* CONGREVE ROCKETS.

RODGERS, JOHN (1772–1838). Rodgers was born in **Havre de Grace, Maryland**, the son of an affluent landowner of Scottish descent who was a patriot in the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He went to sea in 1785 in the merchant trade and in eight years gained enough experience to become a **master**.

Rodgers joined the **USN** as a **lieutenant** in 1798 and was promoted directly to **captain** in 1801 after he had been on the USS *Constellation* as first **lieutenant** when it captured the French *L'Insurgente* during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800). He saw service during the **Tripolitan War** (1798–1800) and took command of the USS *Constitution* in 1804. In 1808, he was the president of the **court-martial** held to examine Commodore **James Barron**'s conduct during the *Chesapeake–Leopard Affair* (22 June 1807). From 1808, he served as **commodore** of a **squadron** that patrolled the eastern seaboard and, in that capacity, on 11 May 1811 in the USS *President* (1800), encountered and fired into HM Sloop *Little Belt* (1801), Commander **Arthur Bingham**, off **Chesapeake Bay**. This engagement became known as the *President–Little Belt Affair*, a potential diplomatic crisis, but the British made light of it, and an inquiry absolved Rodgers of blame; Secretary of the Navy **Paul Hamilton** praised him for his aggressive actions. When war was declared in 1812, Rodgers was the most senior of active **USN** officers and sailed from **New York City** on 21 June with a squadron consisting of the *President*, *United States* (Captain **Stephen Decatur**), *Congress*, *Hornet*, and *Argus* to intercept a large British convoy sailing home from the West Indies. He failed to do this but briefly chased HMS *Belvidera* on 23 June and captured a number of **prizes**. He made a second cruise with fewer vessels in the autumn, encountering little British shipping. Two more lengthy voyages in 1813 had similar results, although he managed to take some prizes, including HM Schooner *Highflyer*, Lieutenant **George Hutchinson**, off New England on 23 September.

Rodgers was then posted to the new **frigate** *Guerrière* under construction at **Philadelphia** and was present at **Washington** and **Baltimore** during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**'s **Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814). He attempted to interrupt Captain **James Gordon**'s **raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September) with fire **ships** but failed. He also commanded the shore

batteries during the unsuccessful British **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). Rodgers did not get to sea again before peace was signed. He continued his career in the USN serving mainly at shore posts and at his passing was greatly mourned.

ROSS, ROBERT (1766–1814). Born into a military family, Ross entered the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1789. He saw his first action as a **major** in Holland 10 years later and was severely wounded. Still ranked a major, Ross continued with the 20th Regiment of Foot, where he was noted for his devotion to drill and the efficiency of his **unit**. The 20th saw plenty of action against the French (earning accolades) through 1813, when Ross, then serving with the army in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), petitioned the **Duke of Wellington** for a **brigade**. This he was given, and in June 1813 Ross was promoted to **major general**. In this role, he continued to distinguish himself and was praised highly by Wellington.

In the spring of 1814, Ross embarked from Bordeaux, France, with one of the four **brigades** being sent to the war in America. His force of 3,400 arrived in July at **Bermuda**, where Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** was preparing for a campaign in **Chesapeake Bay**. On 14 August, off the **Potomac River**, they joined Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**, who explained his plan for an attack on **Washington**. Though reluctant at first, Ross supported the idea, and an expedition of about 4,500 troops, **marines**, and seamen landed at Benedict, **Maryland**, on 18 August. By 23 August, they were within a day's march of Washington, but Ross was hesitant to proceed. Once more, Cockburn provided the encouragement, and this resulted in first the successful **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), where Ross sent his troops into action without delay (to the criticism of some of his officers) and the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August). The force returned to Cochrane's waiting **fleet**, having achieved a significant accomplishment at small cost.

Although Cockburn recommended that an immediate assault should be made on **Baltimore**, Cochrane vacillated, and Ross did not step in to strongly support Cockburn. The expedition did go ahead, resulting in the failure of the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). During the afternoon of the first day, Ross and Cockburn, with a small advanced guard, came into contact with some **Maryland Mi-**

litia riflemen, and Ross was shot through the arm, chest, and lungs. The general died soon after with Cockburn at his side. Command devolved on Colonel **Arthur Brooke**, who won the brief but bloody **battle of North Point** (12 September). Ross's body was carried to the fleet, where it was preserved in spirits for burial at **Halifax**.

ROSSIE (American privateer). Under the command of **Joshua Barney**, the *Rossie* made a three-month cruise in 1812 and captured four **ships**, eight **brigs**, three **schooners**, and three **sloops**, earning Barney and his crew \$1.5 million.

ROTTENBURG, FRANCIS DE, BARON DE ROTTENBURG (1757–1832). De Rottenburg was Polish by birth. He joined the French army in 1782 as a **lieutenant** and resigned in 1791. He accepted a **commission** as **major** in a foreign **regiment** being raised by the **British army** in 1795. As **colonel** in the **5/60th Regiment of Foot**, he gained prominence for developing widely acclaimed tactics for **light infantry**; one of his junior officers was **Charles de Salaberry**. He became a **major general** in 1810 just before he began duty in Canada as a staff officer.

In July 1812, Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** placed de Rottenburg in command at **Montreal**. On 19 June 1813, de Rottenburg took over from Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** as commander of the forces in **UC** and administrator of the province's government. De Rottenburg was not an aggressive commander. He maintained the **blockade of Fort George** through the summer but did not send adequate support for offensives on **Lake Erie** suggested by Major General **Henry Procter** and Commander **Robert Barclay**. After Major General **James Wilkinson** left **Fort Niagara** early in October with a large force to undertake his **expedition on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), de Rottenburg removed his headquarters to **Kingston** and considered a withdrawal of all forces to that place. He imposed martial law locally to force farmers to sell produce to the army.

Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** replaced de Rottenburg in **UC** in December 1813. De Rottenburg remained in **LC** and was a **brigade** commander during **Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814). No longer needed as a staff officer, he

was recalled to England in December 1814, and he eventually rose to the rank of **lieutenant general**.

ROUND SHOT. This was a solid, spherical, iron projectile, its caliber determined by its weight. A typical 9-pdr shot measured four inches in diameter, whereas a typical 24-pdr shot measured 5.33 inches in diameter.

ROUNDHEAD (?–1813). Known among his people as Stayeghtah (Stiahta), this chief of the **Wyandot** nation allied himself closely with **Tecumseh**.

In 1812, he lived in a small village of Wyandots near **Amherstburg, UC**, and fought at the **skirmish at Maguaga** (9 August). The next week, he was present at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August) and then joined Captain **Adam Muir**'s unsuccessful **expedition against Fort Wayne**. In 1813, he fought at the second **battle of Frenchtown** (22 February), the **siege** and later **investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July), and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August).

He died of natural causes in September and missed the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813).

ROYAL ENGINEERS. *See* CORPS OF ROYAL ENGINEERS (British army).

ROYAL FOOT ARTILLERY (British army). *See* ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY (British army).

ROYAL GEORGE (PM/RN). Built for the **PM** and originally but briefly named the *Sir George Prevost*, the *Royal George* was taken over by the **RN** in May 1813. It was reclassified as a **post ship** and renamed the *Niagara* (**1814B**) in May 1814. It was laid up in 1816, rebuilt in the 1820s, and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 20-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1809, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1813) two 18-pdr lg, two 68-pdr crde, 16 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 96' 9" gd × 27' 7" × 11' dh, 330 tons. Crew: 204.

ROYAL HORSE ARTILLERY (British army). This **unit** was formed in 1793 to provide mobile **artillery** in support of **cavalry**; all

its officers and men rode horses or rode on **limbers** or other supply wagons. By 1806, there were 12 **troops** or “brigades” or **horse artillery**. Detachments of this unit were also outfitted to use **Congreve rockets**, and one of these **Rocket Troops** saw action in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and were present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

ROYAL MARINE ARTILLERY (RN). The **Admiralty** created four **companies** of **artillery** in 1804 that were usually attached to the **battalions** of **Royal Marines**. Elements were involved in **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and on shore and afloat during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). A detachment was involved in Admiral **Sir John Warren’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September); the **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown** (6 May); the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June); and the **capture of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June).

In 1814, the artillery, under Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**, was involved in the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (31 May), and the **skirmishes at St. Leonard’s Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June), and, joined by another detachment of the **unit**, was part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September). Their final involvement was during the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815).

ROYAL MARINES. This British fighting force was formed in 1755 to act as seagoing **infantry** and fell under the control of the **Admiralty**. Nearly all **RN** warships had detachments of “shipboard” **Royal Marines**.

Detachments from the warships were involved in Admiral **Sir John Warren’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September), participating in the **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de**

Grace and Principio Foundry (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown** (6 May); the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June); and the **capture of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June).

In 1814, **marines** under Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** were involved in the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek, Virginia** (31 May), and the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June). Elsewhere, they saw action at the **raid at Pettipaug Point, Connecticut** (7 April 1814). Some were in Captain **James Gordon's raid on the Potomac River** (17 August–6 September), while others participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), and the **battle of North Point** (12 September).

Shipboard marines were also present during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and were at the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January) and the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

The Admiralty also formed **battalions** of marines to provide large **units** for service ashore, one in 1810, a second in 1812, and a third in 1813. These battalions were separate from the shipboard marines and were restructured several times by 1815.

The 1st and 2nd Battalions, each with a **company** of **Royal Marine Artillery** attached (and the **Rocket Corps** with the 1st Battalion), served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and then were sent from England to **Bermuda** in spring 1813. On 18 June, they arrived in the **Chesapeake Bay** to participate in Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** and were present at the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June) and the **capture of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June).

The 2nd was sent to **Quebec** in September 1813, and the 1st followed in October. The 2nd fought at the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May 1814), and then it was broken up and used to bring the 1st up to full strength. Commodore **Sir James Yeo** was ordered to employ the 1st Battalion on **Lakes Champlain and Ontario**.

Elements of the 1st Battalion were present at **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), and the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August)

and on shore and afloat during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

The 3rd Battalion arrived at the Chesapeake Bay in July 1814 and participated in a series of raids under Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** during the month before being reorganized as a new 2nd Battalion under Lieutenant Colonel James Malcolm of the old 2nd Battalion, who had just arrived from Quebec. It was part of **Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** and participated in the battle of Bladensburg (24 August), the burning of Washington (24–25 August), and the attack on Baltimore (12–15 September), which included the battle of North Point (12 September). One company of this battalion was also present at the **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September) and the **capture of Pensacola** (7 November).

Cochrane then created a new 3rd Battalion out of three companies of the old one and three companies from the **Corps of Colonial Marine**, elements of which served at actions just listed. The three battalions ended the war united during the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815).

Prominent marine officers included James Malcolm and **Edward Nicholls**.

ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY. Located at Woolwich, England, the Royal Military Academy was founded in 1741 for the training of officers as artillerymen and engineers. Nearly 300 cadets (19 years of age or older with two years of **regimental** service) were attending it in 1812 in a program featuring the study of mathematics, physics, chemistry, drawing, and French that lasted up to four years.

ROYAL MILITARY COLLEGE. The **Duke of York** founded this institution in 1801 for the purpose of educating **British army** officers in a wide range of subjects in preparation for service in various branches of the military. It was located at High Wycombe, near London, and in 1812 had about 400 cadets.

ROYAL NAVY. *See* ADMIRALTY.

ROYAL NEWFOUNDLAND FENCIBLES (British army). Raised first in 1795, then disbanded in 1802, this **regiment** was recruited

again in 1803 for service in America. It arrived at **Quebec** in September 1807 and was stationed at various posts.

Elements of the regiment were involved in the following actions: 1812, **Detroit** (16 August) and the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October); 1813, **Frenchtown** (22 January), **York** (27 April), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Fort George** (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), **Moraviantown** (5 October), and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), **Michilimackinac** (4 August), and the **capture of the *Ti-gress* and *Scorpion* (1813)** (3 and 6 September).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were **Robert Bulger**, **John Le Breton**, and **Robert Mockler**.

ROYAL REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY (British army). This **regiment** was started in 1716 and adopted its name six years later. While an indispensable part of the **British army**, it actually was administered by the Ordnance Board. Its officers were trained at the **Royal Military Academy** at Woolwich and advanced only by seniority. By 1812, it consisted of 10 **battalions** of 10 **companies** each. Each company served as an independent “**brigade**” with six pieces of **ordnance**. They operated on foot and were sometimes called the **Royal Foot Artillery**. Brigades from the second, fourth, fifth, and seventh through tenth battalions fought in the War of 1812.

The regiment lived up to its motto of *Ubique* (“Everywhere”) during the war, as it was involved in more actions than any other **unit**. Elements of the Royal Artillery were present at the following: 1812, **Detroit** (16 August), **Queenston Heights** (13 October), the **attack on French Mills** (23 November), and **Frenchman's Creek** (28 November); 1813, **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January); **York** (27 April), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), the **capture of the *Eagle* (1812) and the *Growler* (1812)** (3 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), **Admiral Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September), the **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown** (6 May); the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June);

the **capture of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June); **“Murray’s Raid”** (29 July–4 August); **Fort Stephenson** (2 August); **Moraviantown** (5 October); **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December); and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February); **Lacolle Mill** (30 March); **Oswego** (5–6 May); **Fort Erie** (3 July); **Chippawa** (5 July); **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July); **Conjuncta Creek** (3 August); the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September); **Michilimackinac** (4 August); the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August); the **capture of the *Tigress* and *Scorpion*** (1813) (3 and 6 September); **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September); **Plattsburgh** (11 September); the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September); **Cook’s Mills** (19 October); **Fort Shelby** (20 July); the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September); Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September), including **Bladensburg** (24 August), **Washington** (24–25 August), **Baltimore** (12–15 September), and **North Point** (12 September); and Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February), and the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

The battery under Major **William Holcroft** was permitted to wear the **battle honor** “Niagara” on its caps and other appointments as recommend by Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond**.

Among its most active and prominent officers in the war were Richard S. Armstrong, Lewis Carmichael, **Alexander Dickson**, and Holcroft.

ROYAL SAPPERS AND MINERS (British army). This unit was formed in 1812 and derived from former **companies** of Royal Military Artificers.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at various actions, including the following: 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May); the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September); Sir George **Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814); Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September), including

Bladensburg (24 August), **Washington** (24–25 August), **Baltimore** (12–15 September), and **North Point** (12 September); Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815), including the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December); and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December); 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

ROYAL SCOTS. *See* 1ST REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army).

ROYAL STAFF CORPS (British army). This select corps was raised in 1799 to supply a need for engineers beyond those in the **Corps of Royal Engineers**. It accepted volunteers from existing **regiments** who had particular knowledge and skill in constructions. A detachment of this **unit** participated in Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December) and, in 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February).

RULE OF 1756. In times of peace in the 18th and early 19th centuries, nations had exclusive trading rights with their colonies. In war, each nation's **merchantmen** were subject to capture by enemy warships and **privateers**, resulting in an interruption in trade. Merchants from neutral nations were only too willing to fill that gap, operating with apparent impunity by reason of their neutrality. In 1756, British **prize** courts allowed the seizure of neutral shipping involved in supporting hostile nations by conducting trade from which they had been excluded during peacetime. This became known as “the Rule of War of 1756” and later “the Rule of 1756.” Neutral merchants and hostile nations suffering for want of trade naturally opposed this doctrine, but by dominating the seaways with its powerful **RN**, Britain was able to impose its judicial will. The Rule of 1756 was upheld by the **Essex Decision** in 1805 and continued to be followed by the British, much to the ire of American merchants who had seen the issue resolved by the **Jay Treaty** (1794). They were further frustrated when

President **Thomas Jefferson** rejected the **Monroe-Pinkney Treaty** (31 December 1807), in which Britain eased its hard line.

"RUMPSEY, DUMPSEY . . . TECUMSEH." *See* JOHNSON, RICHARD MENTOR.

RUSH–BAGOT AGREEMENT (28–29 April 1817). A discussion regarding the armament of the Great Lakes developed in a series of correspondence between the British and U.S. governments beginning in 1815. Final details were agreed to and signed in London by the British minister-plenipotentiary Charles Bagot and the American acting secretary of state Richard Rush. It was simply written yet comprehensive, limiting the size of each Great Lakes warship to 100 tons armed with one 18-pdr gun and one vessel for each nation on **Lakes Champlain** and **Ontario** and two for each on **Lake Erie** and above. They were forbidden to interfere with each other's legal activities. All other warships were to be dismantled. The agreement was ratified in the **United States** on 28 April 1818 and in Britain on 2 October 1818.

RUSSELL, JONATHAN (1771–1832). A native of Providence, **Rhode Island**, Russell was well educated and studied law but chose a career in commerce. He was a devoted **Republican** and published pamphlets supporting the party policies. In 1810, Russell was appointed to his first diplomatic post in Paris and the next year became the U.S. chargé d'affaires in London. A supporter of the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), Russell continued in his post through 1813 and was sent to be the minister to Norway and Sweden in January 1814. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed as a peace commissioner and eventually joined **John Quincy Adams**, **James Bayard**, **Henry Clay**, and **Albert Gallatin** on the commission that developed the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814). Russell played a minor role in the settlement, clashing with Adams on several issues and forming a close friendship with Clay.

In 1818, Russell returned to the **United States**, where he eventually entered the state legislature of **Massachusetts** and had a term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

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SABER. *See* SWORD.

SAC. *See* SAUK.

SACKETS HARBOR, NEW YORK. This small port is located at the extreme end of **Lake Ontario** on the mouth of the Black River and about 35 miles south by boat from **Kingston**, Ontario (UC). Augustus Sacket purchased the surrounding land in 1801, and by 1810 about 1,000 people lived in the immediate area. A deep basin, about 30 acres in size, lay beside the village, protected by a wide, low-lying peninsula. Access to the lake was convenient, but only rough roads connected the village to towns on the **Mohawk River**. Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey**, USN, established a naval base there in 1810, and during the war it turned into a crowded and busy center under Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**.

SACKETS HARBOR, NEW YORK, ATTACK ON (19 July 1812).

The PM squadron on **Lake Ontario** (comprising the *Royal George*, *Earl of Moira*, *Prince Regent* [1812], *Duke of Gloucester*, and one other small vessel) under Master and Commander **Hugh Earl** arrived off **Sackets Harbor** at dawn on 19 July. After sailing to attempt an engagement with part of the squadron, Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey** anchored the U.S. Brig *Oneida* just outside the harbor and prepared to fight off an attack. He moved **carronades** (crde) from his **brig** to **Fort Tompkins**, where he directed the fire of a 32-pdr **long gun** at the approaching British. The *Royal George* sailed close enough to shore (within 1,000 yards) to strike the American position with shot from its 32-pdr crdes without effect.

By midday, the British withdrew, and the intent of their mission was never publicly stated. Anecdotes suggest that Earl had threatened Woolsey with the destruction of his base if he did not surrender the *Oneida* and several **schooners** he was converting for war use.

SACKETS HARBOR, NEW YORK, BATTLE OF (29 May 1813).

Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** arrived at **Kingston** with Commodore **Sir James Yeo** on 16 May 1813 and made his headquar-

ters there. When news reached Kingston six days later that Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** had sailed from **Sackets Harbor**, Prevost began to contemplate an attack on that place. Hearing on 26 May that the Americans were bombarding **Fort George**, Prevost decided to make his attack as a diversion and ordered a reconnaissance of Sackets.

The next day, a force was formed of 800 men drawn from the **1/1st, 1/8th, 100th, and 104th Regiments of Foot**; the **Glengarry Light Infantry Fencible Regiment**; and the **Canadian Voltigeurs**. A party of 40 **Mississaugas** and **Mohawks** was also present. The force went aboard Yeo's **squadron**, which consisted of the **Wolfe, Royal George, Earl of Moira, Lord Beresford, Sir Sidney Smith**, a **merchantman**, and three **gunboats**. Prevost accompanied the force, but command of the attack was held by Colonel **Edward Baynes**.

Light winds delayed arrival at Sackets until noon on 28 May, when the military boarded **ships** and **bateaux** for the landing. Soon after they departed from the squadron, bad weather caused the landing's postponement. Acting independently, the native warriors succeeded in intercepting a flotilla of bateaux carrying men of the **Ninth and Twenty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry** from **Oswego** to Sackets and after a brief fight captured 115 of them, bringing them to the squadron. A new plan was made to attack Sackets at dawn.

Brigadier General **Jacob Brown**, then a **New York Militia** officer, held nominal command at Sackets. Under him stood Lieutenant Colonel Electus Backus at the head of 750 **regulars** from the **Ninth, Twenty-first, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery** and **Regiment of Light Artillery**; and his own **First U.S. Regiment of Dragoons**. The **artillery** served the guns in **Forts Tompkins** and **Volunteer**, while the **New York Militia**, about 700 in number, had a single **field gun**. Lieutenant Wolcott Chauncey, the commodore's younger brother, commanded about 200 **USN** seaman and dockyard workers who served two **batteries** on Navy Point and the guns in two **schooners**. There was also a small detachment of **U.S. Marines** present. Under naval protection was the hull of the future **General Pike** rising on the stocks.

The British landed at Horse Island nearly a mile west of the dockyard at dawn on 29 May. The American **militia** put up some opposition, but when the 100th Foot charged across the causeway that

connected the island to the mainland, Brown's militia fired one **volley** and fled. Baynes soon crossed the rest of his force and formed them for an attack on Fort Tompkins and the dockyard. Prevost came ashore, as did Yeo and a party of seamen. Light winds prevented all but the *Beresford* and the gunboats from getting close enough to support the assault force.

By about 8:00 A.M., the British had advanced to an open field in front of Fort Tompkins, and Baynes ordered the attack. This was the bloodiest phase of the fighting and saw the British close on the American **palisade** but fail to force an entry. At length Baynes recalled them, and after offering the Americans the chance to surrender twice and with Prevost's approval, Baynes ordered a retreat to the boats and the squadron. This decision was very unpopular with officers and men alike. British casualties were 45 killed and 174 wounded.

Backus's regulars, assisted by some militia who returned to the fight, had turned away the British at the cost of 22 dead and 85 wounded, of which Backus was one of those with a mortal wound. Although Brown's troops failed to stand up to the enemy, he wrote the report of the action and won his first accolades as a military commander. Sackets and Fort Tompkins were saved, but in the middle of the battle, Lieutenant John Drury, USN, had ordered the dockyard destroyed, resulting in the burning of a storehouse, **barracks**, supplies, and equipment and the near loss of the *General Pike*. As senior officer, Lieutenant Chauncey was responsible for the loss, although an inquiry absolved him of blame.

Following the battle Commodore Chauncey was reluctant to leave Sackets unless there was an adequate military force on hand to defend it. He spent most of June and July 1813 at anchor and allowed Yeo free rein on the lake.

SAILING MASTER. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

ST. CLAIR, LAKE. This small body of water lies between the **St. Clair** and **Detroit Rivers**.

ST. CLAIR RIVER. Flowing south for about 35 miles from **Lake Huron** to **Lake Erie**, this shallow river forms part of the boundary between **Michigan** and Ontario (UC).

ST. CLOUD DECREE (28 April 1811). Announced on 11 May 1812 as having been in place since April 1811, this decree supposedly repealed France's previous decrees on trade restrictions. It was widely believed to be fraudulent, but it helped provoke the British government into revoking its **orders in council** on 23 June 1812. Its name derived from Napoleon having signed the decree at his palace in St. Cloud, France.

ST. DAVIDS, UC. Located on the upper reaches of **Four Mile Creek** and two miles west of **Queenston**, Ontario (UC), this small village stands at what was a main crossroad just below the **Niagara Escarpment** in 1812. British and American forces passed through it and occupied it in turn throughout the war. During Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814), an American detachment burned the village on 18 July.

ST. DAVIDS, UC, BURNING OF (18 July 1814). Following the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July 1814), Major General **Jacob Brown's** Left Division moved north to take a position on **Queenston Heights** on 10 July. The locals were soon skirmishing with his patrols, some of whom vandalized private property. So fierce was the resistance that one American officer, Lieutenant Colonel Isaac Stone, with a **battalion** of **New York Militia**, took it on himself to exact some retribution and had his men burn the village of St. Davids on 18 July. Brown was outraged at this action and dismissed Stone from his army.

ST. JEAN, LC. This village was located at the head of the rapids on the **Richelieu River** 24 miles north of **Lake Champlain**. It had been a traditional outpost for British forces in this area and was manned throughout the war.

ST. JOSEPH ISLAND. When the British turned over **Michilimackinac** to the Americans in the mid-1790s as per the conditions of the **Jay Treaty**, they established a fur-trading post on St. Joseph Island. It is located in northern **Lake Huron** at the mouth of the **St. Mary River**. The British abandoned it after the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812). The Americans burned the post during Captain

Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes (July–September 1814).

ST. LAWRENCE (1813) (RN). This **schooner** was captured as the Philadelphia **letter of marque** *Atlas* during Rear Admiral **George Cockburn's raid on Ocracoke Inlet** (12–16 July 1813) and contained a cargo worth \$600,000. At that time, it mounted 10 guns, was newly refitted, and was capable of “superior sailing,” as Cockburn attested. It was purchased into the **RN** the following October and soon renamed *St. Lawrence*. From the time of its capture, it served as a **tender** to British warships in **Chesapeake Bay** and was involved in most of the engagements and expeditions of 1813 and 1814.

On 26 February 1815, while carrying dispatches for Cockburn between **Florida** and Cuba, the *St. Lawrence*, Lieutenant **Henry Gordon**, was captured by the American **privateer** *Chasseur*, Captain **Thomas Boyle**. The schooner was so badly damaged in the battle that Boyle sent it to Havana with wounded and prisoners.

Type: 14-gun schooner. Launch: ?. Actual armament: (1814) one 9-pdr lg, 12 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 240 tons. Crew: 76.

ST. LAWRENCE (1814) (RN). As flagship of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** and the largest warship under sail to ever navigate on the Great Lakes, the *St. Lawrence* made two brief voyages in the autumn of 1814. After the war, it was laid up and sold as a hulk in 1832.

Type: 102-gun **first-rate**. Launch: 1814, **Kingston, UC**. Actual armament: (1814) 34 32-pdr lg, 34 24-pdr lg, two 68-pdr crde, 34 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 191' 2" gd × 52' 6" × 18' 6" dh, 2,304 tons. Crew: 700.

ST. LAWRENCE RIVER. The St. Lawrence River provides access to the interior of North America. It drains **Lake Ontario** and drops 226 feet in elevation in the 180 miles between there and **Montreal**. The distance from Lake Ontario to **Quebec** is about 335 miles and from there to the mouth of the St. Lawrence River at Anticosti Island about 350 miles.

ST. LEONARD'S CREEK, MARYLAND, SKIRMISHES AT (8–26 June 1814). St. Leonard's Creek drains into the **Patuxent**

River about seven miles from its mouth. It is about five miles long, narrow and winding, with high banks, and at its head is the modern town of St. Leonard.

Following the **skirmish off Cedar Point** (1 June 1814), Captain **Joshua Barney's** **flotilla** anchored in the Patuxent River. Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** sent the **frigate** *Loire* and the **brig-sloop** *Jaseur* to reinforce Captain **Robert Barrie** in his **74-gun** *Dragon* with HM Schooner *St. Lawrence* (1813). Barrie sent the three smaller warships (and an additional **schooner** or two) with up to 15 armed boats to attack the Americans on 7 June, but Barney retreated and sailed several miles up St. Leonard's Creek, where he placed his vessels in a line across the waterway pointing downstream.

At dawn on 8 June, a series of skirmishes began as the British tried to lure Barney's flotilla out of the creek. Barrie anchored the *Loire* and *Jaseur* at its mouth and sent in the *St. Lawrence* and the boats, which were manned by seamen, **Royal Marines**, and some of the **Corps of Colonial Marines**. The opponents exchanged fire at long range, the British pressing an attack and then withdrawing, Barney following them up, then withdrawing to his original position. This same scenario played out in the afternoon except that one of the **Congreve rockets** sliced through an American seaman and caused a barrel of cartridges to blow up and wound three others. Afterward, Barney wrote to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** for military support and provisions.

The back-and-forth skirmishing in St. Leonard's creek continued through 9 and 10 June, with the hottest exchange occurring on the latter date, when Barney advanced to the creek's mouth and began striking the *St. Lawrence*, which ran aground; a regiment of **Maryland Militia** arrived to help. Barrie moved up the *Loire* and *Jaseur*, which opened their **broadships** and landed a party of Royal Marines to attack the Americans from the riverbank, but Barney withdrew again. He claimed to have gravely injured the *St. Lawrence*, but Barrie reported only four hits on it and a casualty count for the three days' action of three killed and two wounded.

Barrie now decided to **blockade** the American flotilla while he conducted a series of raids up the Patuxent to harass the populace and goad Barney into action; the frigate *Narcissus* arrived to strengthen the blockade and Barrie's expedition while the British

made other brief nightly attacks on Barney's position. Beginning on 12 June, boatloads of seamen, Royal Marines, and Colonial Marines proceeded up the Patuxent, reaching villages within 20 miles of **Washington** on 16 June. The British confiscated vessels and loaded them with tons of tobacco, provisions, and livestock; what they could not carry away they burned. There was a rumor that the **Thirty-sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** was waiting to ambush them, but this was false, and Barrie returned to the blockade having faced next to no opposition. During this period, as many as 10 **marines** and seamen deserted, bringing news to Barney about British strength and intentions.

In the meantime, Barney and Jones exchanged a series of letters in which the captain asked for more reinforcements and provisions and the secretary wavered in his views. Jones first supported Barney, then advised him to haul out his vessels and convey them overland north to Chesapeake Bay by means of an elaborate scheme, then recommended that he burn his flotilla, then concluded that Barney attempt to break out. A detachment of the **U.S. Marine Corps** with three pieces of **artillery**, elements of the Thirty-sixth and **Thirty-eighth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, detachments of the **Corps of Artillery**, and some Maryland Militia had arrived to support him.

Cockburn recalled Barrie to **Tangier Island**, leaving the *Loire* and *Narcissus* on blockade where they were at dawn on 26 June when Barney made his breakout. He had ordered a **battery** of two 18-pdr **long guns** (lg) and three 12-pdr lg erected on a height of land at the head of the creek, and it opened fire on the unsuspecting **frigates** at dawn as the flotilla descended to join them. They hit the frigates, which returned fire, and Captain Thomas Brown of the *Loire* ordered several boats to cover a **rocket boat's** attack on the battery. Brown withdrew around 7:00 A.M. downriver out of range, and Barney sailed out of the creek and up the Patuxent (eventually taking a position at Nottingham), having ordered his two **gunboats** left behind and scuttled.

American casualties during the breakout were six dead and up to eight wounded. Barney complained to Jones about the lack of support he received from the Thirty-sixth and elements of the Thirty-eighth Infantry, totaling about 600 men and held in reserve through the action. Brown reported only one man wounded on 26 June.

ST. MARY RIVER, UC. This waterway drains **Lake Superior** into **Lake Huron** at modern-day Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. In 1812, it was strewn with rapids at the foot of which stood a British fur-trading post. This was destroyed on 23–26 July 1814 by an American force during Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September).

ST. MARY RIVER, UC, RAID AT (23–26 July 1814). During Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September 1814), his squadron became wind-bound at **St. Joseph Island**. He succeeded in capturing a small **merchantman**, the *Mink*, and learned that there was another larger vessel on the **St. Mary River** on 22 July 1814. He sent Lieutenant **Daniel Turner** with a detachment of seamen and a force of **regulars** under Major **Andrew Holmes** in several boats to find this **schooner**, the *Perseverance*. The Americans arrived on 23 July and captured the fur-trading post without opposition, destroying all the buildings and possessions, including some private property. At the head of the rapids, they found the *Perseverance* and put out the fire in it set by the fleeing British. The Americans emptied it and tried to run it down the rapids, but it was too badly damaged, and Turner ended up burning it. His detachment caught up with Sinclair's **squadron** after it had arrived at **Michilimackinac**.

ST. PHILIP, FORT, BOMBARDMENT OF (9–18 January 1815).

This **fortification** was constructed on a curve in the Mississippi River about 30 miles from its mouth. Major General **Andrew Jackson** inspected it in December 1814 and ordered some improvements, including the rebuilding of a **battery** across the river. The **fort** soon mounted two 32-pdr **long guns** (lg), 29 24-pdr lg, and some **mortars** and **howitzers**. It was **garrisoned** by nearly 370 officers and men of the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and the **Corps of Artillery** under Major Walter Overton of the **Third U.S. Regiment of Rifles**. They were assisted by one **USN gunboat**.

On 9 January 1815, five small **RN** warships, including two **bomb vessels**, anchored downriver from the fort and began a bombardment. The fort returned fire and suffered some damage, along with two killed and seven wounded, but no land assault was attempted, and

after nine days of firing, the warships left. Little is known about these vessels or whether their mission was meant as a feint to cover the withdrawal of the British army after the failed **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

ST. REGIS. *See* AKWESASNE.

SALABERRY, CHARLES MICHEL D' IRUMBERRY DE (1778–1829). Born in LC, Salaberry entered the **British army** as a volunteer in 1792 and two years later was **commissioned** an **ensign** in the **60th Regiment of Foot** through the patronage of Prince Edward, fourth son of King George III (later the Duke of Kent and father of Queen Victoria). Salaberry showed courage and talent during a campaign in the West Indies, and the prince continued to guide his career. In 1806, as a **captain**, he joined the 5/60th Foot under then-Colonel **Francis de Rottenburg**, the expert in **light infantry** tactics who later referred to Salaberry as “my dear Gunpowder.” While on recruitment in England, he became involved in a brief but difficult controversy with then-Major General **Sir George Prevost**.

In 1810, Salaberry returned to Canada as de Rottenburg's **aide-de-camp**. **Brevetted to major** the next year, he proposed the formation of a light infantry corps of LC **militia** that became in the spring of 1812 the **Canadian Voltigeurs**. Another controversy involving Prevost developed, concerning the granting of a **regular** army commission as **lieutenant colonel** to Salaberry, and was not resolved until mid-1814, much to his annoyance.

In 1812, Salaberry and some of the Voltigeurs were posted along the LC border with **New York** and **Vermont**, where they saw action at the **skirmish at Lacolle** (20 November); Prevost did not mention him in a dispatch to the home government.

When the Right Division of the **U.S. Army** in the Ninth **Military District** under Major General **Wade Hampton** threatened to invade LC via the **Richelieu River** route, Salaberry reinforced his forward post at **Odelltown** (20 September 1813) and put up such a fight that Hampton withdrew and headed for the **Chateauguay River** in **New York**. In the subsequent **battle on the Chateauguay** (26 October), Salaberry demonstrated his expertise in defensive preparations, deployment, and battlefield steadiness, outnumbered though he was by

Hampton's army. Major General **Louis de Watteville**, Salaberry's immediate superior, and Prevost arrived on the scene late in the action. Sir George later reported the affair in such a way as to downplay Salaberry's role. Salaberry protested and threatened to resign, but Prevost offered him the lucrative assignment of **inspecting field officer** of the militia; privately, Prevost denigrated Salaberry's role at Chateauguay and overall competence. Late in 1814, Salaberry sent his resignation to the **Horse Guards**, but Prince Edward intercepted it, and Salaberry remained in commission as a lieutenant colonel; he sat on the board at the **court-martial** of Major General **Henry Procter** at **Montreal** in December 1814.

Salaberry received a medal in 1816 in commemoration of his victory at Chateauguay and at the recommendation of Lieutenant General **Sir Gordon Drummond** was made a **CB** in 1817. He ended his years as a successful landowner, involved in various civil affairs.

SALLY. *See* SORTIE.

SALMON RIVER, NEW YORK. This river flows northward from **New York**, crossing into Quebec, **LC**, and draining into the **St. Lawrence River** about 10 miles east of **Cornwall**, Ontario (**UC**).

SALMON RIVER, RAIDS ON THE (14–24 February 1814). Following Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813), his **division** went into winter camp in and around **French Mills, New York**. Secretary of War **John Armstrong** ordered him to break up his army, sending part of it to **Sackets Harbor** and the rest to **Plattsburgh**. The last of the American force left French Mills on 13 February after burning the winter quarters and destroying the army's flotilla of **bateaux**, 328 in number.

A British force crossed from Canada the next day and headed up the **Salmon River**. It was composed of more than 1,300 officers and men from the **2/89th** and **103rd Regiments of Foot**, the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, **19th Regiment of Light Dragoons**, **Canadian Fencibles**, **Glengarry and Stormont Counties Militia**, and the **Select Embodied Militia of LC**. They were commanded by Colonel **Hercules Scott** with Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison** also pres-

ent. Without opposition, the force occupied French Mills and began removing to Canada large amounts of munitions and provisions left behind by Wilkinson. Scott established a camp at French Mills and between 19 and 24 February raided depots at nearby villages, including Malone, Fort Corners, Madrid, and Hopkinton. The British confiscated a lot of provisions and equipment, took some prisoners, and burned some public buildings before returning to Canada. Their only loss in the expedition appears to have been over 70 deserters, most of them from the 103rd who took this opportunity to prove the truth of their reputation for poor conduct.

SANDERS, JAMES (?–1834). The record of this officer's career is thin. It appears that he entered the **RN** under the patronage of an uncle in the service in 1780. He passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1787 but did not obtain a **commission** in that rank until 1794. He was made a **commander** in 1798 and **post captain** in 1802. Sanders is next known to have commanded HMS *Junon* on 20 June 1813, when it was attacked by a flotilla of **gunboats** under Master Commandant **Joseph Tarbell** off **Norfolk, Virginia**, and successfully defended. Sanders was made a **CB** in 1831 and died before rising to an **admiral's** rank.

SANDUSKY RIVER. This river flows north across **Ohio** and empties into **Lake Erie** at Sandusky Bay about 50 miles east of the **Maumee River** and about 160 miles west of **Erie, Pennsylvania**.

SANDUSKY SENECA. Following the **American War of Independence (1775–1783)**, a portion of the **Seneca** nation of the **Six Nations** in **New York** moved to the **Sandusky River** area. Warriors from this group were part of Major General **William Harrison's** **campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813) and were at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813).

SANDWICH, UC. This small village was situated on the **Detroit River** opposite **Detroit**, where modern-day Windsor, Ontario, lies.

SANDY CREEK, SKIRMISH ON (30 May 1814). Following the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May), Commodore **Sir James Yeo** kept a

close watch on **Lake Ontario**'s south shore, in particular the stretch between **Oswego, New York**, and **Sackets Harbor**. This patrolling amounted to a **blockade**, as it prevented Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** from taking delivery by water from Oswego of the heavy **ordnance** and equipment he needed to outfit his new **frigates**, the USS *Superior* and the USS *Mohawk*. Chauncey wrote repeatedly to Master Commandant **Melancthon Woolsey** at Oswego, advising him to be ready to move a shipment of guns the minute Yeo's warships were not on station. Seeing a chance late on 28 May, Woolsey left Oswego with a convoy of 19 heavily laden boats. Apart from his seamen, he had 130 officers and men of the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** under Major **Daniel Appling** as an escort and some **New York Militia** acting as pilots and crew. Meanwhile, 150 **Oneida** warriors followed the flotilla on shore.

During the night, one of Woolsey's boats became separated from the convoy, and at first light it came into view of HMS *Prince Regent* (1814) and was captured. Learning about Woolsey's movement, Yeo deployed Captain **Stephen Popham** in two **gunboats** and three other boats to search for the Americans; eight hours later, Captain **Francis Spilsbury** left the **squadron** with two more boatloads of men to support Popham, bringing his force to about 135 seamen and 60 **Royal Marines**.

Thinking that the wayward boat might have fallen into British hands, Woolsey hurried forward on 29 May to Big Sandy Creek and then took the convoy two miles up the creek to a landing on the road to Sackets to unload his cargo. Here, he and Appling erected a barricade in case they were attacked, and Woolsey sent a note to Chauncey. The **commodore** arranged with Brigadier General **Edmund Gaines** for a **troop** of the newly formed **Regiment of Light Dragoons** and two guns of the **Corps of Artillery** to march for the Sandy Creek landing. He also sent Master Commandant Charles Ridgely forward along with a **company** of **U.S. Marines**.

Meanwhile, at first light on 30 May, Woolsey's scouts saw Popham's flotilla land at Sandy Creek and make a reconnaissance around 8:00 A.M. Popham observed the American boats at a distance and, deciding that only a band of New York Militia would be guarding them, ordered his boats up the creek and landed men on both banks.

The American **dragoons** and guns arrived around 9:00 A.M., and

Appling and Woolsey deployed them and the Oneida at the barricade and under cover on both sides of the creek. Popham led his force into the ambush, which erupted at 10:00 A.M. The Americans sprang the attack perfectly, and the British held them off with determination at first, but a **carronade** in the lead gunboat jammed, and they could not turn the boat in the narrow stream to use its **long gun**. Seeing his casualty rate climb rapidly, Popham surrendered after 15 minutes.

British losses amounted to 18 killed, about 50 wounded, and over 170 captured, along with the seven boats. Yeo was livid when he heard of Popham's actions, and, suddenly deprived of 200 men, he gave up the blockade of Sackets and retired to Kingston.

The Americans lost several dead and wounded. Chauncey immediately claimed the captured **RN** boats, causing a controversy with Gaines and Appling, who believed they were **U.S. Army prizes**. Within a few days, Chauncey's supply line by water was restored, the guns and equipment from Woolsey's convoy having been delivered by road.

SARATOGA (USN). This vessel was the flagship of Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron** at the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814. It was laid up in 1815 and left to decay.

Type: 26-gun **corvette**. Launch: 1813, **Vergennes, Vermont**, as the **Jones (1814A)** but soon renamed. Actual armament: eight 24-pdr lg, 12 32-pdr crde, six 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 143' 6" bp × 36' 4" × 14' 6" dh, 734 tons. Crew: 250.

SAUK. The Sauk nation (the "Yellow Earth People") included the Sauk (or Sac) and Fox (or Mesquaque) peoples, who inhabited the area near modern-day Green Bay, **Wisconsin**, at the beginning of the war. The subsequent fighting divided the Sauk, some remaining neutral, some joining the British under **Black Hawk**, and others, under a chief named Keokuk, siding with the Americans.

Black Hawk led a large number of warriors to **Fort Amherstburg** in the summer of 1812 but was too late to participate in the **capture of Detroit** (16 August). The next month, he and his men invested **Fort Madison** (5–8 September) unsuccessfully.

In 1813, Sacs and Foxes joined **Tecumseh** and the British at the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on**

Fort Stephenson (2 August) but became so disenchanted with the British that many of them followed Black Hawk back to their homelands. Some remained to fight with Tecumseh at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October), after which the survivors joined the British at **Burlington Heights**. With the other “**Western Indians**,” they later participated in the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19–21 December) and the **raid on Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December). In 1814, some warriors were probably at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July).

In the **Old Northwest**, the Sauk allowed the American expedition under Governor **William Clark** to pass on its way to occupy **Prairie du Chien** (2 June 1814), but some joined the British during the **siege of Fort Shelby** (Prairie du Chien, 17–20 July), while others under Black Hawk fought the next American parties in the **first and second skirmishes at the Rock Island Rapids** (21 July and 5 September 1814).

Elements of the Foxes and Sacs signed peace treaties during the council meeting at **Portage des Sioux** in the summer of 1815.

SAUK (RN). See *OHIO* (USN).

SAUKENUK. This village of the **Sac** nation stood where the Rock River flows into the Mississippi River at the Rock Island Rapids. It was a large community and was said to comprise 100 lodges and 1,000 warriors in 1817. The **Fox** nation had several villages along the Mississippi River toward **Prairie du Chien**.

SAWYER, HERBERT (?–1833). Sawyer was the son of an **RN** officer. His record begins with his first **commission** as a **lieutenant** in 1780. He was promoted to **master and commander** in 1783, **post captain** in 1789, and **rear admiral** in 1807. In 1810, Sawyer was a **vice admiral** of the blue and held command of the **North America Station** at Halifax.

At the outbreak of war, the station was weak in **ships**, manpower, and facilities to repair and refit the warships, and Sawyer, through an apparent lack of energy, did little to improve things. The **Admiralty** warned him during the spring of 1812 that war with the **United States** was imminent, but Sawyer did not make any plans to meet the

threat. Only in July did he form a **squadron** of his 64-gun flagship *Africa* and three **frigates**—the *Shannon*, *Belvidera*, and *Æolus*—to make a cruise in search of the USS *President* and its squadron, which had sailed from **New York City**. The **maritime provinces** were harried by American **privateers**, but with some of his larger vessels on convoy duty, Sawyer had difficulty maintaining patrols to counter the privateers. He effectively continued the **license trade**, which allowed American carriers to transport goods to British interests, especially its armies in Europe. In August, the Admiralty sent Admiral **Sir John Warren** to replace Sawyer. Sawyer was made a **KCB** in 1815 and rose to the rank of **admiral** in 1825. He died at Bath, England.

SCALE THE GUNS. Charges of powder were fired periodically from **artillery** pieces in order to remove any rust that might have formed in their bores.

SCAJAQUADA CREEK, NEW YORK. *See* CONJOCTA CREEK, NEW YORK.

SCEPTRE (RN). This was the flagship of Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** through the latter part of Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813). He moved out of it after it was badly damaged in a storm off the Atlantic seaboard in January 1814. Placed in ordinary following the war, it was broken up in 1821.

Type: 74-gun **third-rate**. Launch: 1802, Deptford, UK. Standard armament: 28 32-pdr lg, 32 18-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde, six 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 174' gd × 47' 4" × 20' dh, 1,727 tons. Crew: 640.

SCHLOSSER, FORT, NEW YORK. Situated about two miles upstream of the Niagara Falls, this post was near the southern terminus for the American portage around the falls. It consisted of a **block-house** and light **palisade**.

SCHLOSSER, FORT, NEW YORK, RAID AT (5 July 1813). At the recommendation of Lieutenant **James Fitzgibbon**, Lieutenant Colonel **Thomas Clark**, 2nd **Lincoln Militia** Regiment, assembled a

force of 34 **militiamen** and eight of the **1/49th Regiment of Foot** and crossed the **Niagara River** in three boats from **Chippawa, UC**, to **Fort Schlosser** before dawn on 5 July 1813. They captured the guard, consisting of three officers, nine soldiers, and six civilians, without a shot being fired and seized a large supply of goods, including a brass 6-pdr **field gun**, 57 stands of arms, ammunition, a **gun-boat**, two **bateaux**, 40 barrels of food, and entrenching tools. They threw 15 tons of shot and **shell** into the river and sank six scows and six boats before returning to Chippawa.

SCHOONER. A schooner had two masts rigged primarily with **fore-and-aft** sails. It was considered a topsail schooner when square top-sails and topgallants were added to its foremast and mainmast.

SCORPION (1812) (USN). This vessel, probably a **merchantman**, was obtained by the **USN** in 1812 for use in **Chesapeake Bay**. It was sent from **Norfolk, Virginia**, to be part of the **Potomac Flotilla** in the spring of 1813. It ended up as part of Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla** and was destroyed to prevent its capture on 22 August 1814.

Type: 4-gun **sloop** or **cutter**. Launch: ?. Armament: one 24-pdr lg, one 18-pdr lg, one 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 48' 8" ud × 18' 2" × 4' 6" dh. Crew: about 30.

SCORPION (1813) (USN). This vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813 and in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the Upper Lakes** in 1814. A British party under Lieutenant **Miller Worley** captured it on **Lake Huron** on 6 September 1814. It was renamed the **Surprise (1814B)**, laid up in 1817, and left to decay.

Type: 2-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1813, **Erie, Pennsylvania**. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr lg, one 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 68' 6" ud × 18' 6" × 5' 6" dh, 63 tons. Crew: 40.

SCORPION (1813) CAPTURE OF. See **TIGRESS AND SCORPION (1813)**, CAPTURE OF (3 and 6 September 1814).

SCOTT, HERCULES (?–1814). The record shows that this officer joined the **British army** in 1793 as an **ensign** and rose to **lieutenant**

and then **captain** the next year. He became a **major** in 1800 with the 78th Regiment of Foot, which was posted in South Africa, and he was **brevetted** to **lieutenant colonel** in 1805. Three years later, he transferred as lieutenant colonel to the **103rd Regiment of Foot** stationed in Ireland. The **regiment** was sent to Canada in 1812.

In September 1812, Scott was given the local rank of **colonel** and remained in **LC**. In July 1813, he was made commander of the **garrison** at **Isle-aux-Noix** and early in November was sent with part of the 103rd to **Cornwall, UC**, in anticipation of fighting with the Major General **James Wilkinson**'s division of the **U.S. Army** coming down the **St. Lawrence River**. In February 1814, he led the **raids on the Salmon River** (14–24 February) against Wilkinson's former camp in **French Mills, New York**, and surrounding villages.

In June 1814, he and the regiment were sent forward to the **Niagara Peninsula** to join the Right Division under Major General **Phineas Riall**. Scott made a forced march with a **brigade** to reinforce Riall and Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July) and was praised for his conduct. He subsequently wrote to his brother about his lack of faith in the abilities of Riall and Drummond. He was very apprehensive of the success of Drummond's proposed **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August) and was killed while advancing with his men at the head of his troops. Scott was buried in the British camp near **Fort Erie**.

SCOTT, WINFIELD (1786–1866). Born in **Virginia**, Scott was a lawyer when he obtained a **captain's commission** in the **U.S. Regiment of Light Artillery** in May 1808. He was advanced to **lieutenant colonel** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** in July 1812 and marched with part of this **unit** to the **Niagara Frontier** early in October. On 13 October, he volunteered his services to Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** during the **battle of Queenston Heights** and ended up commanding the U.S. force in its final stages, where he was captured. **Paroled** by the British, he returned home and was promoted to **colonel** and appointed **adjutant general** of Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s Left Division of the Ninth **Military District**. He played a critical role in the planning of the landing and attack in the **battle of Fort George** on 27 May 1813, when he was wounded. He remained in Niagara through the **blockade of Fort George** (July–

October), participating in the skirmish at the **Ball property** (17 July) and the **raid on York** (31 July–1 August).

Major General **James Wilkinson** reached the Niagara Frontier early in September and left a month later with over 3,000 men for use in his **campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). Scott remained in command with instructions to complete the planned improvements of **Fort George**. This he did, and when it was confirmed that the British had ended the **blockade** and withdrawn to **Burlington Heights**, he happily followed a clause in his orders that allowed him to leave Niagara with his men, much to the dismay of Brigadier General **George McClure**, who remained in command.

On 13 October, Scott, with about 850 **regulars** (apparently a mix of elements of the **units** stationed there through the summer), marched for the **Genesee River**, where he expected Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** to provide transportation to **Sackets Harbor**. Chauncey's orders were changed, and while his men trudged slowly to Sackets, Scott hurried on ahead and joined Wilkinson, where he was put in charge of the **Third Artillery** under Brigadier General **Moses Porter**. Scott missed the **battle of Crysler's Farm** on 11 November but, the previous day, had fought under Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** at the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** near **Cornwall, UC**, as part of Wilkinson's advance guard.

During the winter, he was ordered to Albany to prepare for the campaign of 1814 and was made a **brigadier general** in March. Soon after, he marched for **Buffalo**, where he joined now–Major General **Jacob Brown**'s Left Division of the Ninth **Military District**. He was given command of a **brigade** and trained it (and other parts of Brown's force) strenuously. His brigade led the way at the bloodless **capture of Fort Erie** (3 July) and beat the British **regulars** at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July). But at the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), Scott deployed his brigade well within the range of British artillery without closing to **musket** range or attacking, and his men suffered deplorable casualties. Similarly—and incomprehensibly—in the final stage of the battle, he led the remains of his brigade in a slow march between opposing forces where they were further cut to pieces by friend and foe alike. Late in the action, Scott received a musket **ball** through his left shoulder and was removed from the ac-

tion. Following the battle, he convalesced near Buffalo and then headed for Philadelphia for further treatment. He went to **Washington** and in September was given command of the Tenth Military District.

Scott was awarded a gold medal by the **U.S. Congress** and pursued an active and influential military career following the war, rising to general in chief of the army in 1841. He commanded the victorious American troops during the Mexican War of the 1840s, was a presidential candidate in 1852, and retired from the service in 1861, greatly admired.

SCOURGE (USN). On 5 June 1812, Lieutenant **Melancthon Woolsey** in the U.S. Brig *Oneida* seized the British merchantman *Lord Nelson* on **Lake Ontario** off the **Genesee River** for violating conditions of the **Embargo Act (April 1812)**. The USN purchased the schooner, renamed it the *Scourge*, and converted it for war service as part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** squadron. It sank off **Twelve Mile Creek** near modern-day St. Catharines, Ontario, along with the U.S. Schooner *Hamilton* (1809) during a storm on 8 August 1813.

Type: 10-gun schooner. Launch: 1811, **Niagara, UC**, as the merchantman *Lord Nelson*. Actual armament: (1813) four 6-pdr lg, six 4-pdr lg. Dimensions: 45 tons. Crew: 33.

SEA FENCIBLES. On 26 July 1813, the **U.S. Congress** passed “an act to authorize the raising of a corps of sea **fencibles**.” This provided for the formation of up to 10 **companies** for one-year service (during the war only), each to be composed of up to four **commissioned** officers (a **captain** and three **lieutenants**), 12 **warrant** officers (boatswains, gunners, and quarter gunners), and 90 men. They were to operate under the normal provisions of the **U.S. Army** as required ashore and afloat in the nation's harbors. Eventually, there was one company at Boston and two at **Baltimore**, the latter of which served at **Fort McHenry** during the unsuccessful British **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September 1814).

SECOND-RATE. In the **RN**, this was a warship with 90 to 98 guns on three decks.



*Winfield Scott, 1786–1866. Courtesy of the
Library and Archives of Canada, C116569*

SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY. This **unit** was formed in January 1812 to consist of two **battalions** of 10 **companies** each. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in the Fourth, Fifth, and Eighth **Military Districts**. In May 1814, it was consolidated with the **First** and **Third U.S. Regiments of Artillery** to form the **Corps of Artillery**.

Elements of the regiment participated in such actions as the following: 1812, the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October) and **Queenston Heights** (13 October); 1813, Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (17 July), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were Jacob Hindman, **Winfield Scott**, and **Nathan Towson**.

SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1791, this **regiment** became known as the Second Infantry in 1796 and eventually was to comprise 10 **companies**. In 1812, it was stationed in **New Orleans**, and from spring 1813 it was to recruit in **Louisiana**, **Tennessee**, and the **Mississippi Territory**.

Elements of the regiment were present during Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813) and the **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September 1814).

Among its notable officers during the war were Henry B. Brevoort and **William Lawrence**.

SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF LIGHT DRAGOONS. This **regiment** was created in January 1812 and intended to comprise 12 **troops**. They were recruited in **Pennsylvania**, **Virginia**, **Massachusetts**, **New Hampshire**, **Kentucky**, and **New York**. Its **colonel**, **James Burn**, experienced considerable difficulty in equipping the regiment with arms and horses. From spring 1813, the regiment was to recruit in the First, Second, Third, Fourth, and Ninth **Military Districts**. In May 1814, it was consolidated with the **First U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons** to form the **Regiment of Light Dragoons**.

Elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, the **Mississinewa River** (17–18 December); 1813, Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Fort Meigs** (May, July), **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), **Beaver Dams** (24 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), the **Ball property** (8, 11, and 17 July), **"Ball's Battle"** (30 July), **Chateauguay** (26 October), Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

Among its most active and prominent officers during the war were James Burn, James V. Ball, and John T. Woodford.

SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES. This **unit** was formed in February 1814 to consist of 10 **companies**. They were recruited in **Ohio, Tennessee, and Kentucky**. The **regiment** was stationed at **Detroit** after its formation and did not participate in any actions.

Its most prominent officer during the war was **George Croghan**.

2ND WEST INDIA REGIMENT (British army). This **unit** was originally recruited in 1795 and was known as Myer's Regiment Foot. Two **companies** of the **regiment** participated in the **Cumberland Island campaign** (January–March 1815).

SECORD, LAURA INGERSOLL (1775–1868). Secord was a pioneer wife and mother living at **Queenston, UC**, in June 1813, when she is said to have heard about an American plan to destroy the home of John Decew, which was an outpost for half a **company** of British **regulars** under Lieutenant **James Fitzgibbon**, and to have walked the 12 or so miles from Queenston to warn Fitzgibbon. An American detachment under Lieutenant Colonel **Charles Boerstler** sent to destroy Decew's house was subsequently ambushed and captured at the **battle of Beaver Dams** on 24 June. Members of the **Six and Seven Nations** were responsible for the victory, although most of the credit went to Fitzgibbon, who was not involved in the fighting. **John Norton** wrote that Fitzgibbon had received word from a local settler two days before the battle but not on the eve of battle as Secord's story suggests. Secord sought reimbursement for her assistance to Fitzgib-

bon but was unsuccessful until her tale came to the attention of the Prince of Wales (the future King Edward VII) in 1860. He awarded Secord £100, and after that the story of her journey became popularized and evolved into a well-known Canadian legend.

SEDENTARY MILITIA. *See* MILITIA FORCES.

SEGOYEWATHA. *See* RED JACKET (ca. 1750–1830).

SELECT EMBODIED MILITIA OF LC. Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** ordered the formation of seven **battalions** of select **militia** in LC beginning with the first four in May 1812. The men were selected by lot from the province's **sedentary militia**. Each battalion was to number between 600 and 800 men. Several other **units** were formed from elements of these seven battalions, including two battalions of the **Militia Light Infantry**, one battalion of the **Frontier Light Infantry**, and the **Canadian Chasseurs** (which was different from the **Independent Companies of Foreigners** in **Chesapeake Bay** in 1813, sometimes incorrectly referred to as the Canadian Chasseurs).

Elements of the Select Embodied Militia participated these actions: 1813, "**Murray's Raid**" (29 July–4 August), **Odelltown** (20 September), **Missisquoi Bay** (12 October), and **Chateauguay** (26 October); 1814, **Salmon River** (14–24 February), **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

SENECA. *See* GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SANDUSKY SENECA; SIX NATIONS.

SENECA, FORT. Located about eight miles south of modern-day Fremont, **Ohio** (**Fort Stephenson**), and about 35 miles southeast of **Fort Meigs**, this small outpost was Major General **William Harrison's** headquarters during the late spring and summer of 1813. It was one of several forts built along the **Sandusky River** to protect the supply train for Harrison's **Army of the Northwest**.

SENHOUSE, HUMPRHEY LE FLEMING (1781–1841). Born in Barbados, Senhouse was the son of an officer in the **RN**, which ser-

vice he entered in 1796 as a **midshipman**. He obtained a **commission** as **lieutenant** in 1802 and was promoted to **commander** in 1809 and given HM Sloop *Recruit*, in which vessel he was present on the **North America station** when the war started. He moved into HM Sloop *Martin* in 1813 and was on **blockade** duty off **Delaware Bay** when that vessel ran aground at Cape May, resulting in the unsuccessful **assault on the *Martin*** (29 July 1813) by the **Delaware flotilla** under Master Commandant **Samuel Angus**.

In 1814, Senhouse participated in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815) and was sent home with dispatches relating its success in October 1814, at which point he was promoted to **post captain**.

Senhouse does not appear to have had another active command until 1831. He was made a **CB** in 1834 and died of a fever in Hong Kong while in command of HMS *Blenheim*.

SERGEANT. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

SEVEN NATIONS. The Seven Nations comprised the aboriginal peoples (of mainly **Iroquois** ancestry) who had left the region of **New York** late in the 1600s to live in four settlements near **Montreal** (**Kahnawake**, **Kanestake**, **Akwesasne**, and **Oswegatchie**) and three settlements farther down the **St. Lawrence River** populated by **Abenakis**, Micmacs, and Hurons. Most of them were allies to the British; the settlement of Akwesasne, which spanned the border, had divided loyalties. Elements of the Seven Nations participated with the British at the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812), the **attack on Ogdensburg** (22 February 1813), the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May 1813), the battle of **Lacolle Mill** (30 March 1814), and **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814). Their most important contribution was the victory they gained under **Dominique Ducharme** with their **Six Nations** brethren in capturing an entire American detachment under Colonel **Charles Boerstler** at the **battle of Beaver Dams** on 24 June 1813.

SEVEN YEARS' WAR (1756–1763). This war, between Britain and France and their respective allies, saw hostilities occur in numerous parts of the world. The French and Indian War (1754–1763) preceded

the larger conflict and involved French and British forces fighting for supremacy in North America. The conflict ended with the Treaty of Paris (1763). France lost most of its holdings in North America, resulting in an expansion of the British colonies in **BNA**. In turn, this provoked fiscal (and other) measures that led to the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783).

SEVENTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Created in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each, this **regiment** was adjusted the following June to be one battalion of 10 companies. It was originally raised mainly in **Kentucky** and in the fall of 1812 joined Brigadier General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** as part of the left wing under Brigadier General **James Winchester**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in Kentucky, **Ohio**, and **Mississippi**, **Indiana**, **Illinois**, and **Missouri Territories**.

In March 1814, it was consolidated with the **Nineteenth, Twenty-sixth**, and **Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiments of Infantry** to form new Seventeenth and Nineteenth Regiments. Elements of the regiment were present during the following: 1813, **Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **Frenchtown** (22 January), **Fort Meigs** (May and July), **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), and **Put-in-Bay** (10 September); 1814, Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September), the **capture of the Tigress and Scorpion (1813)** (3 and 6 September), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **George Croghan** and **John Miller**.

7TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in London in 1685, this **regiment** became known as the **Royal Fusiliers**. Having seen service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/7th was sent to be part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December),

the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

SEVENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in April 1808, when it was recruited in **Kentucky** and **New Orleans**. One **company** fought at the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811). From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Louisiana**, **Tennessee**, and the **Territory of Mississippi**. In 1814, it recruited in Kentucky. It became known as “The Cottonbalers” after its service at New Orleans in 1814–1815.

Elements of the regiment were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, **Fort Harrison** (3–16 September); 1814, **Prairie du Chien** (2 June), **Fort Shelby**, **Prairie du Chien** (17–20 July), **Rock Island Rapids** (21 July and 5 September), the **attack on Villeré’s plantation** (23 December), and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December); 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **bombardment of Fort St. Philip** (9–18 February).

One of its prominent officers during the war was **Zachary Taylor**.

70TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Recruited originally in 1758, this **unit** was known as the Glasgow Lowland Regiment. It arrived at **Quebec** from the West Indies in November 1813 and was stationed at **Montreal** until the summer of 1814, when it was posted on the upper **St. Lawrence River** near **Cornwall**. It did not see any action during the war.

74-GUN SHIP. *See* THIRD-RATE.

76TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **regiment** was first formed in 1787. It served widely in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) before being sent to Canada in 1814. It was involved in **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

SHANNON (1806) (RN). Captained by **Philip Broke**, this **frigate** was part of a **squadron** that captured the U.S. Brig *Nautilus* and chased

the USS *Constitution* in July 1812 off **New York City**. On 1 June 1813, off Boston, the *Shannon* captured the USS *Chesapeake*. It was broken up in 1859.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1806, Chatham, UK. Actual armament: (1813) 28 18-pdr lg, four 9-pdr lg, one 6-pdr lg, 16 32-pdr crde, three 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 150' 2" ud × 39' 11-3/8" × 12' 2" dh, 1,066 tons. Crew: 300.

SHANNON (1806) SQUADRON PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF NAUTILUS (17 July 1812). A British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke**, HMS *Shannon* (1806), consisting of HMS *Africa*, Captain John Bastard; HMS *Æolus*, Captain Lord James Townshends; HMS *Belvidera*, Captain **Richard Byron**; and HMS *Guerrière*, Captain **James Dacres**, was cruising off the **New Jersey** coast when it spotted the U.S. Brig *Nautilus*, Lieutenant **William Crane**, at dawn on 17 July 1812. By noon, the *Shannon* ranged close enough to destroy the American **brig** with a **broadside** or two, and Crane surrendered with the approval of his officers. The first U.S. warship captured by the British in the war, the *Nautilus* was taken to **Halifax**, where it was renamed the *Emulous* and put into service. Once **exchanged**, Crane went before a board of inquiry and was acquitted of blame for the loss of his vessel.

SHANNON (1806) VS. CHESAPEAKE, NAVAL BATTLE OF (1 June 1813). A British **squadron** under Captain **Philip Broke**, HMS *Shannon* (1806), **blockaded** Boston and the New England coast during the spring of 1813. Hearing that the USS *Chesapeake*, Captain **James Lawrence**, had been refitted for sea, Broke challenged Lawrence to a ship-to-ship engagement, stating the strength of his vessel and that he would send his consort, HMS *Tenedos*, away so that it would not interfere. Lawrence had held command of the *Chesapeake* for only two weeks and had not trained the crew to his standards. The two vessels were roughly equal in firepower, although Broke had trained his crew so thoroughly that it was considered among the best afloat.

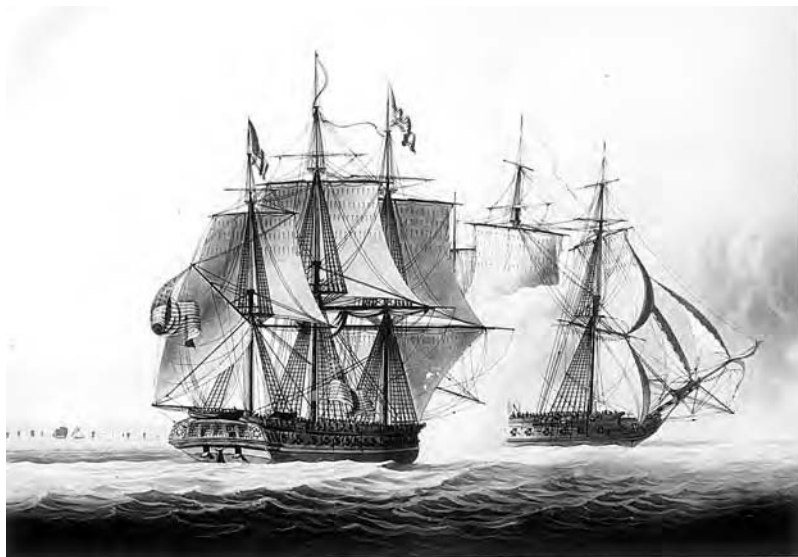
Broke's challenge did not reach Lawrence before he sailed on 1 June. The **ships** met between Cape Cod and Cape Ann around 5:30 P.M. and exchanged several **broadsides** at close range. The *Chesa-*

peake's stern then became entangled with the *Shannon*'s foremast rigging, and Broke led a boarding party onto the American ship. The guns and **musketry** and hand-to-hand fighting led to an American surrender about 15 minutes after the action commenced.

The *Chesapeake* suffered 69 dead or dying and 77 injured, while the *Shannon* had 26 dead and 58 wounded. Lawrence was mortally wounded and was carried below, advising his men, **“Don’t give up the ship.”** He died on 4 June. Broke received a serious head wound but survived. The British proudly escorted their prize into **Halifax** harbor, earning accolades from all for having, apparently, redeemed the honor of the **RN**, which had been sullied by earlier defeats in ship-to-ship actions.

SHANNON (1813) (RN). See *EAGLE* (1812) (USN).

SHAWNEE. This nation (the name meant “the southerners”) inhabited settlements in western **Ohio** and **Indiana Territory** in 1812. During



HMS Shannon versus the USS Chesapeake, 1 June 1813.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C7470

the war, their loyalties were split between the British and Americans. The pro-British faction followed **Tecumseh** and the **Prophet**. In 1812, they participated in the **massacre at Pigeon Roost, Indiana Territory** (3 September), and the **investment of Fort Harrison** (3–16 September). In 1813, they were present at the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July), the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August), and the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October). Afterward, some survivors joined the British at **Burlington Heights** as part of the “**Western Indians**” and participated in the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19, 21 December) and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December). In 1814, some warriors were probably at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July).

The majority of the Shawnee nation preferred neutrality, but a handful of warriors under **Black Hoof** joined the **Army of the Northwest** during Brigadier General **William Hull’s campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August) in the early summer of 1812 to act as scouts. Some later joined Major General **William Harrison’s campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), working with Brigadier General **James Winchester’s** advance wing, but were not present at the **battles of Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January 1813). Shawnee scouts were with Harrison during the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813), and a party of warriors was part of Brigadier General Green Clay’s relief column in the battle there on 5 May. Black Hoof and 100 warriors joined Harrison’s invasion of southwestern **UC** late in September and were part of his force at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October).

Representatives from Shawnee tribes signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) to ally themselves with the U.S. government and the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815) to formally end hostilities.

SHEAFFE, SIR ROGER HALE (1763–1851). Sheaffe was born in Boston, and through the patronage of the Duke of Northumberland, who had befriended Sheaffe’s widowed mother, he joined the **RN** as a **midshipman** in 1773. Five years later, he obtained a **commission** as **ensign** in the 5th Regiment of Foot. With that **regiment**, he served in Canada from 1787 to 1797 before returning to England and transferring into the **1/49th Regiment of Foot**, where he became the ju-

nior **lieutenant colonel** under **Isaac Brock** in 1799. He came to Canada with the regiment in 1802, spending most of the next decade there and rising to the rank of **major general** in 1811.

Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** sent Sheaffe to the **Niagara Peninsula** in August 1812 to be Brock's second in command, so he was on hand to take charge of the British forces at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) after Brock's death and captured the American army. For this victory, he was made a **baronet**. Sheaffe also took over command of the civil and military affairs in UC, but he did not enjoy the level of popularity and public success that Brock had experienced. His decision to agree to a monthlong **armistice** with the Americans after the battle of Queenston Heights infuriated locals who wanted revenge and brought criticism from Prevost, who complained that Sheaffe missed a chance to counterattack, the sort of aggressiveness Prevost had always ordered Brock to avoid.

Sheaffe's perceived lack of interest in defending **Chippawa** and **Fort Erie** during Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth's failed invasion** of UC in November 1812 earned him more public scorn. During the winter of 1812–1813, he attempted to improve defenses in UC without much support from Prevost. He had the misfortune to be at **York** when Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** brought an army under Major General **Henry Dearborn** to fight the **battle of York** (27 April 1813). Badly outnumbered and poorly supported by the **UC Militia**, Sheaffe withdrew with half his force to **Kingston** and was widely criticized for the defeat. Prevost replaced him as commander and government head in UC with Major General **Francis De Rottenburg** and advised the home government to recall him.

Sheaffe went to England in November 1813 and remained in the army, rising to the full rank of **general** in 1838.

SHELBURNE (RN). This 225-ton **schooner** was launched as the *Racer* near **Baltimore** and was known as one of the Baltimore clippers because of its great speed. Its owner obtained a **letter of marque** for it in August 1812. Armed with six guns and crewed by 36 men, it made one round trip to Bordeaux, France, between August and January 1813 and was setting out for France in April, carrying coffee, cotton, and sugar, when it was taken by the British as one of the **Rappahannock River prizes** (3 April 1813). It was widely used

during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September) and then formally purchased into the **RN** at **Halifax** and renamed *Shelburne*.

Commanded by Lieutenant **David Hope**, it operated in the Gulf of Mexico in 1814 and was in company with HMS *Orpheus*, Captain **Hugh Pigot**, near the tip of **Florida** when it helped to chase and capture the U.S. Sloop *Frolic*, Master Commandant **Joseph Bainbridge**, on 20 April 1814.

SHELBY, FORT, MICHIGAN TERRITORY. *See* FORT DETROIT.

SHELBY, FORT, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN. After American forces under Governor **William Clark** occupied **Prairie du Chien** on 2 June 1814, they built a small **palisaded** fort with two **blockhouses**, two small pieces of **artillery**, and some swivel guns. It was captured by the British on 20 July and renamed **Fort McKay**.

SHELBY, FORT, PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, SIEGE OF (17–20 July 1814). News reached the British at **Fort Mackinac** on 17 June 1814 that an American force had occupied **Prairie du Chien** and started building **Fort Shelby**. Realizing that this would allow the Americans to interrupt the fur trade through that key post, Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall**, commanding at **Michilimackinac**, quickly organized a expedition to capture the fort. It was headed by Major **William McKay** (to whom McDouall gave a local rank of **lieutenant colonel**) and eventually consisted of a single **sergeant** of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, 120 officers and men of the **Michigan Fencibles**, the **Canadian Volunteers (British)**, the **Mississippi Volunteers**, and some from the **Indian Department**, as well as 530 native warriors from the **Chippewa**, **Fox**, **Kickapoo**, **Menominee**, **Sacs**, **Sioux**, and **Winnebago** nations. McKay left Michilimackinac on 28 June with about 210 men, the others joining him on the march.

McKay arrived at Fort Shelby on 17 July and offered Lieutenant Joseph Perkins the chance to surrender. Perkins (**Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, commanding in the absence of Captain **Zachary Taylor**) had 65 officers and men of the **Seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and some Missouri Militia in the fort, while others

manned a heavily barricaded and armed **gunboat** at the wharf. Perkins refused McKay's offer, and the British opened fire, centering on the gunboat, which cast loose and drifted downstream and out of sight.

The British laid **siege** to the fort, firing at it with their single 3-pdr **field gun**. On 19 July, McKay decided to heat the last few remaining shot and try to burn down the fort. Seeing what the British intended, Perkins surrendered, making sure that McKay guaranteed the safety of his men in the presence of the very hostile native forces. The surrender took place formally the next day.

The British renamed the post **Fort McKay**. It remained in the hands of the Mississippi Volunteers through the rest of the war. The Americans failed to retake it, their efforts resulting in the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September 1814).

SHELBY, ISAAC (1750–1826). Shelby was born in **Maryland** and as a young man was a surveyor in **Kentucky Territory** and an active patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). He later settled in Kentucky, gained public prominence, and was the state's first governor. He enjoyed great success in that role but after 1796 returned to his private life, where he developed a vastly successful plantation.

At the age of 62, Shelby was reelected governor in 1812 and worked to change the **militia** law and to encourage the recruitment and outfitting of the state's militia. In July 1813, Major General **William Harrison** asked Shelby to mobilize a strong force of **Kentucky Militia** to strengthen his **Army of the Northwest**. The governor did this and personally led five **regiments** of **infantry** (2,500 men) and Colonel **Richard Johnson**'s regiment of mounted riflemen to join Harrison in northern **Ohio**. Shelby's men, mainly raw recruits, formed the main body of the force with which Harrison invaded **UC** late in September. They also played the leading role in Harrison's victory at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October). Although Shelby continued to work to improve the state's militia, he saw no further action in war. His last years were spent in active public service.

SHELL. This hollow, iron projectile was filled with powder. The shell's fuse was carefully trimmed so that it ignited when it was fired

from a piece of **artillery** and exploded near the enemy. Shells were frequently referred to as “**bombs**.”

SHERBROOKE, SIR JOHN COAPE (1764–1830). This officer was born in England and joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1780. He saw wide experience in such places as India and the Mediterranean and served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814); he was made a **KCB** in 1809. In June 1811, he gained the rank of **lieutenant general** and two months later was appointed the **lieutenant governor** of **Nova Scotia**.

During the war, he played an important role in coordinating affairs in the **maritime provinces** with Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** and the government in London as well as working to supply the war needs in **UC** and **LC**. He was also instrumental in negotiating trade arrangements with merchants in New England. In 1814, the British government stepped up the war against the eastern seaboard of the **United States**, and Sherbrooke was ordered to undertake the brief and nearly bloodless **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

Following the war, Sherbrooke served as governor in chief of **BNA** from 1816 to 1818.

SHIP. Although often used as a generic referent to any vessel, this term identifies a vessel with three masts, rigged with **square sails**, as well as **fore-and-aft** sails at the bow and stern and between the masts. In terms of rating, a vessel of this type was termed a **sloop** when commanded by a **commander** (**RN**) or **master commandant** (**USN**). Under a **captain**, it was rated as a “ship,” which in the **RN** was also known as a **post ship**.

“**SHIPBUILDERS’ WAR.**” *See* CHAUNCEY’S SQUADRON; YEO’S SQUADRON.

SHIPMAN’S CORNERS, UC. This small village was located four miles up **Twelve Mile Creek** and later became St. Catharines, Ontario.

SHIP OF THE LINE. This was a warship large enough (**first-**, **second-**, and **third-rates** in the **RN**) to sail in the standard line of battle

during a major naval engagement. In 1812, the **USN** had no ships of the line, but several were under construction by 1815. In the same period, the British had about 100 of them on stations around the world.

SHIP-RIGGED. A vessel with three square-rigged masts was said to be ship-rigged.

SHIP-SLOOP. This was the rating of a **ship** commanded by a **commander (RN)** or **master commandant (USN)** and was used to differentiate the vessel from a **brig-sloop**.

SHOT. This term referred to the various types of projectiles fired by **artillery** and small arms.

SIEGE. The act of besieging an enemy position was an element of military science involving numerous phases and procedures. Essentially, it meant to surround the position with the intention of attacking it. “Laying close siege” meant getting near enough to create a breach in the walls with heavy artillery. This involved the digging of trenches, called parallels, to move closer to the position with some protection. The British campaign against **Fort Meigs** in May 1813 was a modified siege and unsuccessful.

SIGGENAUK. *See* **BLACKBIRD**.

SINCLAIR, ARTHUR (?–1831). Sinclair was born in **Virginia** and entered the **USN** as a **midshipman** during the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800) and served through the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He was promoted to **lieutenant** in January 1807 and given the U.S. Schooner *Enterprise* that December. In 1809, he moved into the schooner *Nautilus* in 1809 and then the **brig Argus** in 1811.

In July 1812, Sinclair advanced to **master commandant** and commanded the **Potomac flotilla** in the spring of 1813. In May 1813, he was sent to **Sackets Harbor, New York**, to command the *General Pike* under Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**. Sinclair was present during all the actions between Chauncey and Commodore **Sir James Yeo** in 1813, including the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11

September) and the “**Burlington Races**” (28 September). Promoted to **captain** in July, Sinclair complained to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** that the *Pike* was beneath his rank and asked to be relieved. He left Sackets late in the fall for health reasons, and the next April he was given command of the USN **squadron on Lake Erie**.

Sinclair arrived at **Erie, Pennsylvania**, on 26 April 1814 and found the base, over which Master Commandant **Jesse Elliott** had held command since Captain **Oliver Perry** left the lake, in a deplorable state. He worked industriously to refit his vessels for service and to improve discipline in the squadron. Sinclair's original orders were to mount an expedition to the upper lakes to recapture **Michilimackinac**, but this was changed in May, when he was instructed to transport an army under Major General **Jacob Brown** from **Buffalo** to a point near **Port Dover** in UC; he recommended the **raid at Port Dover** (14–16 May), which went awry under Colonel **John Campbell**. In June, Sinclair was ordered to proceed with his **campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September), which turned out to be largely unsuccessful.

Sinclair's last mission in the war was to transport troops to support the defense of **Fort Erie** in September 1814. He soon left Erie but returned the next spring before being posted to the *Constitution* (ill health prevented him from active command). He spent the rest of his life in the USN, mainly at shore posts.

SINCLAIR'S CAMPAIGN ON THE UPPER LAKES (July–September 1814). In June 1814, Captain **Arthur Sinclair** received orders to seize control of the upper lakes by recapturing **Michilimackinac** and destroying British shipping, which had been a goal of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**, Master Commandant **Oliver Perry**, and Major General **William Harrison** in 1813.

He set out from **Erie, Pennsylvania**, on 18 June in the U.S. Sloops *Lawrence* and *Niagara* (1813) and arrived at **Detroit** three days later. Because of shallow, shoaly water in **Lake St. Clair** and the **St. Clair River**, adverse winds, and other delays, Sinclair did not sail onto **Lake Huron** until 14 July. He had added the U.S. Brig *Caledonia* and the U.S. Schooners *Tigress* and *Scorpion* (1813) to his flotilla, and he had embarked about 750 soldiers (five **companies** from the **Seventeenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiments**

of **Infantry**, a few men from the **Corps of Artillery**, and about 250 **Ohio Militia**) under Lieutenant Colonel **George Croghan**. Reports led Sinclair and his superiors to believe that the British were developing a major shipbuilding facility at **Matchedash Bay** in **Georgian Bay**; Croghan was much opposed to the expedition. Without a knowledgeable pilot, Sinclair slowly explored the shoreline and ended up at **St. Joseph Island**, where Croghan's men burned the abandoned British post and the navy soon captured the **merchantman Mink** about 22 July. A combined force then went in open boats for a **raid at St. Mary River** (near modern-day Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario) on 23–26 July, and they destroyed the trading post and a second merchantman, the *Perseverance*.

Sinclair next headed for Michilimackinac and anchored there on 26 July. After making observations, discussing alternatives, and shifting men and materiel among the vessels, Sinclair and Croghan finally launched their **assault on Michilimackinac** on 4 August, but it failed miserably. Sending casualties and a portion of the troops back to Detroit in the *Lawrence* and *Caledonia*, Sinclair sailed into Georgian Bay in search of the rumored British dockyard. There was none to be found, but they did succeed in destroying the merchantman *Nancy* at the Nottawasaga River on 13 August.

Sinclair then decided to return to Detroit but left the *Tigress* and *Scorpion* (1813) in the northern channels of Lake Huron and Georgian Bay to intercept any other British traffic; the British captured the **schooners** on 3 and 6 September, respectively. Sinclair reached Detroit on 20 August and Erie 11 days later.

SINGLE-SHOTTED. **Artillery** was single-shotted when only one round of **shot** was fired. If two or more rounds were loaded together, the **gun** would be considered double- or treble-shotted.

SIoux. The Sioux lived in the region between the upper Mississippi and Missouri Rivers and westward into modern-day Wyoming. The eastern Sioux were allies of the British, while the western communities passively backed the Americans.

In 1813, Sioux warriors joined the British at the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August) and also participated in the **capture of Fort Shelby**

(20 July 1814) and the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September 1814).

Elements of the Sioux signed the **Treaty of Portage des Sioux** (8 September 1815).

SIR GEORGE PREVOST (PM). *See WOLFE.*

SIR ISAAC BROCK (PM). In the autumn of 1812, Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** and others proposed the building of a 30-gun **ship** and the eventual **Wolfe** and **Detroit** (1813). Identified as the *Sir Isaac Brock* before it was launched, the 30-gun ship was laid down at **York, UC**, as part of the plan to move the **PM** headquarters there from **Kingston**. Because of supply problems and the incompetence of Master Shipwright William Plucknett, construction of the *Brock* was slow. Rumor of its construction along with a second ship at York prompted Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** and Major General **Henry Dearborn** to favor an attack on York early in 1813 in hopes of capturing the vessels and adding them to their force. When they made their attack on 27 April, the *Brock* was not yet finished. Sheaffe ordered it destroyed by fire just prior to his retreat, and the Americans seized only the ordnance and equipment meant to outfit it.

SIR JOHN SHERBROOKE (British letter of marque). Merchants in Liverpool, **Nova Scotia**, bought the captured American **privateer Thorn**, captured by the **RN** late in 1812, and obtained a **letter of marque** for it in February 1813. It was well handled and captured 18 valuable **prizes**, but the vessel was too large to operate profitably and was sold to new owners late in 1813 who used it as a **merchantman**. It was captured by an American privateer in October 1814 and burned.

Type: 18-gun **brigantine**. Launch: ?. Armament type uncertain. Dimensions: 273 tons. Crew: 150.

SIR SIDNEY SMITH (RN). *See GOVERNOR SIMCOE.*

SIREN (USN). Its name having been altered from *Syren* in 1810, this vessel was commanded by Lieutenant **Nathaniel Nicholson** (it had been **commissioned** to Master Commandant George Parker, who

died during the cruise). Near South Africa on 12 July 1814, HMS **Medway**, Captain **Augustus Brine**, chased and captured the *Siren*. It was known to have been a British hospital hulk until 1815.

Type: 16-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1803, Philadelphia, as the *Syren*. Actual armament (1814): two 9-pdr lg, 12 24-pdr crde, two 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 93' 4" bp × 27' 9" × 12' 6" dh, 240 tons. Crew: 137.

SIX NATIONS. Iroquoian aboriginal people had well-established confederacies, lived in semipermanent villages, and grew crops as their main food source by the time Europeans first explored the Great Lakes region in the 1600s. In central **New York**, the **Iroquois** (an Algonquin term translated as “real adders”) had formed a confederacy known as the Five Nations, or League of the Iroquois, consisting of the **Mohawk** (“Eaters of Men”), **Oneida** (“People of the Standing Stone”), **Onondaga** (“People of the Hill”), **Cayuga** (“People of Oiogouen”), and **Seneca** (“Great Hill People”) nations (some of these people moved to the **St. Lawrence River** in the late 1600s and were eventually part of the **Seven Nations**). This League of the Iroquois became the Six Nations when **Tuscaroras** from North Carolina joined them in the early 1700s. Among the many changes brought to the Iroquois by the actions of European settlers was that following the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), some of the Six Nations who had been loyal to the British had to flee New York to avoid reprisals at the hands of the American patriots, while others remained in their homelands. With British assistance, the refugees settled at such places as the **Grand River** and **Tyendinaga**. Before and during the War of 1812, representatives of the **Grand River Six Nations** and the **New York Six Nations** met to debate neutrality versus siding with one or the other belligerent.

16TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First recruited in 1688, this **unit** was known as the Bedfordshire Regiment. It arrived at **Quebec** from Ireland in the summer of 1814 and was **garrisoned** in **LC** but did not see action.

SIXTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorga-

nized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. It was originally raised mainly in **Pennsylvania**, and from spring 1813 it was to recruit in Pennsylvania, **Delaware**, and western **New Jersey**. In September 1812, the regiment reached **Greenbush, New York**, where it trained for a month, and then headed to **Plattsburgh**, where it spent the winter.

Elements of the regiment were present during the following actions: 1812, **skirmish at Lacolle** (20 November); 1813, Major General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813), **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Black Rock** (11 July), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November); 1814, the last stage of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October) and the **skirmish at Cook's Mills** (19 October).

Among its prominent officers during the war was **Cromwell Pearce**.

6TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First raised in 1673, the **regiment** became known as the 1st Warwickshire. Having served in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), the 1/6th arrived in Canada in June 1814 and was sent to **UC**. It arrived on the **Niagara Peninsula** in August and was present during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September). The regiment was granted the **battle honor** of “Niagara.”

An officer of note in this **unit** was Archibald Campbell.

SIXTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in April 1808, when it was recruited in **Pennsylvania**, **New York**, and **New Jersey**, and then was stationed in **New Orleans**, **Pittsburg**, and **Natchez**, **Mississippi**. In 1812, the regiment recruited in **New York** and later in **New Jersey** and **Pennsylvania**.

Elements of the regiment were present at numerous actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October);

1813, **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Beaver Dams** (24 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2 November), and **Hoople's Creek** (10 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Among its most active officers during the war were John Machesney, **James Miller**, Jonas Simonds, and John Walworth.

SIXTH-RATE. In the **RN**, this was a warship with 20 to 30 guns.

60TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). The **light infantry** 7th **battalion** of this **regiment** was formed in 1813, mainly of Germans from the island of Guernsey. It arrived at **Halifax** from Guernsey in the summer of 1814 and participated in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

64TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First formed in 1758, this **unit** was known as the 2nd Staffordshire Regiment. In June 1813, this **regiment** arrived from Surinam at **Halifax**, where it was **garrisoned** and did not see any action during the war.

62ND REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). This **unit** was originally recruited in 1758 and was known as the Wiltshire Regiment. The 1/62nd had served in the Mediterranean before being sent to **Halifax** in 1814. It was involved in the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

SKIRMISHERS. Like a shield, skirmishers were placed in front and on the flanks of a force during a march or when it was formed on the field of battle. Usually consisting of **companies** of **light infantry** or **rifles** and occasionally **dragoons**, the skirmishers could feel out the enemy's strength and intents as well as guarding against a surprise attack. Skirmishers could also be used to lure an enemy into a full engagement and to cover a force in retreat.

SLIDE. This type of **artillery** carriage was a flat platform with a center slot in which the piece of **artillery**, usually a **carronade**, recoiled after firing.

SLOOP. When applied to a warship, this term indicated that a **commander (RN)** or **master commandant (USN)** had charge of the vessel, which could be rigged as a **schooner**, a **brig**, or a **ship**. The term could also refer to a small **sloop-rigged** vessel, commanded by a junior officer.

SLOOP-RIGGED. A vessel with one mast rigged fore and aft was said to be a **sloop** or sloop-rigged. A warship with this rig was commanded by a junior officer.

SMITH, SAMUEL (1752–1839). Smith was born in **Virginia** into a family of means that provided him with a good education before bringing him into his father's commercial interests in **Baltimore**. As a **militia** officer during the **American War of Independence (1775–1783)**, Smith distinguished himself in action before turning to manage a number of **privateers**. He made a fortune through land speculation after the war, rose in rank in the **Maryland Militia**, and was elected to the state legislature. In 1792, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, serving for 10 years before election to the U.S. Senate. A firm **Republican**, he served temporarily as President **Thomas Jefferson's** secretary of the navy before helping his brother Robert get that post 1801.

Robert Smith was eventually forced out of the cabinet in 1811 (having been secretary of state the previous two years), and this brought Samuel into sharp conflict with President **James Madison** and his finance secretary, **Albert Gallatin**. He eventually became the unofficial head of the Republican faction known as the "Invisibles" and disagreed with Madison on such matters as his trade policies for arresting British and French effects on American trade. Smith did, however, support most of the government's prewar legislation and voted for the **War Bill**.

In 1813, as **major general** of the Maryland's Third Division, Smith used his considerable influence to get the support of **Federalist** Governor Levin Winder and the city council of Baltimore in funding and putting into effect improvements in the city's defenses in 1813.

In 1814, Smith continued his ambitious efforts with the addition of **fortifications**, the organization and training of **regiments**, the ac-

quisition of arms and funds, and the preparation of a sound defensive plan. His influence among key decision makers revealed itself again when, in September, acting Secretary of War **James Monroe** informed Brigadier General **William Winder** that his authority as commander of the Tenth **Military District** would be superseded by Smith at Baltimore, where Winder, contrary to convention, would subsequently serve as Smith's subordinate. Smith had the full backing of the city's government, its independent Committee of Vigilance and Safety, and such prominent officers as Captain **Oliver Perry**. More than anyone else, the successful defense during the British **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September) was due to Smith's energy and competence.

Following the war, Smith remained actively involved in business and politics and died one year after retiring as mayor of Baltimore.

SMITH, SIDNEY (?–1827). The records show that Smith was a resident of **New York**, joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in July 1800, and was promoted to **lieutenant** on 7 March 1807. At the **American declaration of war** (18 June 1812), he commanded a naval force on **Lake Champlain** that consisted of a pair of decrepit **gunboats** at Basin Harbor 20 miles south of **Burlington, Vermont**. Lieutenant **Thomas Macdonough** arrived there in October and took command of the post. In the spring of 1813, Smith was on patrol to interfere with **smuggling on Lake Champlain** when he decided to sail down the **Richelieu River** to inspect the British outposts. Despite his pilot's advice about adverse currents and winds, Smith entered the river early on 3 June and was confronted by a British force that succeeded in the **capture of the *Eagle* (1812) and *Growler* (1812)**. Taken prisoner along with 90 others, Smith was held at **Quebec** until he escaped in June 1814. He was caught again, however, before reaching safety and does not appear to have seen active service in the war after this incident.

Smith was promoted to **master commandant** in February 1815 and remained in the navy until his death at **Plattsburgh, New York**.

SMUGGLING ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN. The **Lake Champlain** valley and its connection to **LC** via the **Richelieu River** had been a lucrative commercial route long before the war, and to some extent

it continued as such through the period of hostilities. Some of the trade was sanctioned by the U.S. government, but a large amount of business was illegal. **Vermont** merchants, farmers, and foresters dominated this illegal traffic, in part because of the war and the government's various restrictions on trade being so unpopular in the state. Residents of **New York** also engaged in such smuggling.

Herds of livestock of all types were sent into LC, as were vast quantities of other foodstuffs and merchandise. Rafts of timber crossed the border and went down the Richelieu River to the British dockyard at **Isle-aux-Noix**, especially in 1814. Part of Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron's** role was to interfere with this traffic, which it did a number of times during the summer of 1814. By and large, however, the flow of goods was so great and so beneficial to the British that **Sir George Prevost** purposely picked New York as the ground for his **Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September 1814) rather than injure his stronger commercial ties in Vermont.

The Canadian merchants in LC were opposed to restrictions placed on their trade by Prevost, and despite his efforts to keep necessities in the province, there was a continuous flow of illegal commerce from the province into Vermont and New York throughout the war.

SMYTH, ALEXANDER (1765–1830). A native of Ireland, Smyth was raised in **Virginia**, where he took up the practice of law and served in the state legislature. He entered the **U.S. Army** as a **colonel** in the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** in 1808 and was appointed the **inspector general** of the army with the rank of **brigadier general** in July 1812, having produced a training manual for the army. In August, Smyth asked for a command in the field and was sent with several newly recruited **regiments** to the **Niagara Frontier** to join the army under Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer**.

Smyth arrived and made camp at **Black Rock, New York**, late in September but refused to meet with Van Rensselaer for a council of war. He did march his force toward Van Rensselaer's camp during the horrible weather on 10 October as ordered but turned back when the intended attack was aborted. He was unable to march his force to the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October), shortly after which

he was given command of the Niagara army when Van Rensselaer resigned.

Smyth agreed to extend an **armistice** arranged between Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** and Van Rensselaer, while he prepared to make his own invasion attempt. This expedition turned into two aborted attempts on 28 November and 1 December. Smyth, who had alienated his staff and troops with his bombastic and ineffective leadership style, soon left the Niagara Frontier in disgrace. He was removed from the U.S. Army during its reorganization in March 1813.

SMYTH'S FAILED INVASION OF UC (28 November and 1 December 1812). Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth** advised Major General Stephen **Van Rensselaer** in writing prior to the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) to launch his invasion of UC on the upper **Niagara River**. When Smyth took command on the **Niagara Frontier** following Van Rensselaer's resignation, he organized his 3,000-man force to attack the British on the upper river. His order of 25 November would have sent detachments to land at six places from **Fort Erie** to **Chippawa**, but the expedition was postponed because of high rates of illness and logistical problems.

Late on 28 November, Smyth ordered two detachments, one under Captain William King and Lieutenant **Samuel Angus**, USN, and the second under Lieutenant Colonel **Charles Boerstler**, to attack, respectively, British positions at **Fort Erie** and five miles north of there at **Frenchman's Creek**. The detachments comprised about 200 men each, drawn from the **Fifth, Twelfth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Twentieth, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry** and Angus's USN seamen. The first detachment captured and destroyed some guns, while the second destroyed a bridge. Both warmly engaged the British force, which consisted of elements of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, the **1/41st and 1/49th Regiments of Foot**, and the **Lincoln and Norfolk Militia** under Lieutenant Colonel **Cecil Bisshopp**. Both American parties withdrew to their side of the river, where Smyth had ordered a large force of **regulars** from the previously mentioned **units** plus **New York Militia, Pennsylvania Militia**, and **12-month volunteers** to embark in up to 70 boats. They were to cross under a barrage from a **battery** of the **Regiment of Light Artillery**, which had begun to fire. The embarkation was post-

poned after a council of war of regular officers, one of whom was Colonel **William Winder**; **Peter Porter** and **Cyrenius Chapin** were among the **militia** officers present. In the two actions on the Canadian side, the Americans lost about 15 killed, 55 wounded, and 30 captured, while the British had 14 killed, 46 wounded, and 24 captured.

On 1 December, Smyth intended to launch his invasion with about 1,500 regulars and militia, but the force was not ready to set out across the river until after dawn. Smyth convened a council of war where it was decided to terminate the operation, and this also ended his invasion plans.

SNAKE HILL, FORT ERIE, UC. During Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814), Brown's Left Division of the Ninth **Military District** fell back to **Fort Erie** after the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July). There, the Americans worked industriously to expand and improve the fort. The southern portion of it was built around a sandy mound known as Snake Hill. The top of this formation was leveled, and a powerfully armed **battery** was established there, named after Captain **Nathan Towson**. It was the scene of extremely vicious fighting during the **British assault on Fort Erie** (15 August 1814).

During development of this land for housing in 1987, a military cemetery was uncovered containing the remains of 28 American soldiers from the War of 1812, as forensic testing later revealed. This discovery and investigation brought some temporary prominence to the name of "Snake Hill" and resulted in the repatriation of the remains to a military cemetery in Bath, New York.

SODUS, NEW YORK, BRITISH RAID AT (19 June 1813). Commodore **Sir James Yeo** anchored his **squadron** off Sodus Bay (about 30 miles southwest of **Oswego, New York**) on 19 June 1813 and landed a force, including elements of the **1/1st Regiment of Foot**, which confiscated supplies, including several hundred barrels of flour from the village of **Sodus**. A local **New York Militia company** opened fire on the British, killing one and wounding five, and then fled. As retribution, Yeo ordered all storehouses burned before he departed.

SOMERS (USN). The USN bought this vessel which became part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. The **capture of the Ohio and Somers** took place at **Fort Erie** on 12 August 1814. The British renamed it the **Huron**, which was laid up in 1817 and left to decay.

Type: 2-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1809, **Black Rock, New York**, as **merchantman Catherine**. Actual armament: (1813) one 24-pdr lg, one 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 53' 6" bp × 17' 3½" × 8' dh, 65 tons. Crew: 39.

SOREL RIVER. See RICHELIEU RIVER.

SORTIE. While suffering under a **siege**, a commander might send out parties to attack the enemy's **batteries** and works in order to inhibit its efforts. Such an expedition is known as a sortie or sally.

SOUTH BASS ISLAND. This is one of the collection of islands in the western reaches of **Lake Erie**. It features a good anchorage at **Put-in-Bay** and is located about 40 miles southeast of **Amherstburg, UC**, and 14 miles northwest of the **Sandusky River, Ohio**.

SOUTH CAROLINA. South Carolina was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Raleigh. In 1810, its population was about 415,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—eight for, 0 against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governors were Henry Middleton (**Republican**, 1810–1812), Joseph Alston (Republican, 1812–1814), and David Rogerson Williams (Republican, 1814–1816).

SOUTH CAROLINA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 34,000 officers and men on the rolls of the South Carolina Militia. In both of the federal government's calls for militia mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 5,000. Although elements were mobilized during the war, they did not see any action.

SOUTH WEST FUR COMPANY. This fur trading company was formed in 1811 by former rivals John Jacob Astor of the American

Fur Company and the British **North West and Michilimackinac Companies**, its purpose being to protect their mutual interests south and west of **Michilimackinac Island**.

SOUTHAMPTON (RN). Commanded by Captain **Sir James Yeo**, this **frigate** captured the U.S. Brig **Vixen (1803)**, Lieutenant **George Reed**, off the coast of Georgia on 22 November 1812. Several days later, the *Southampton* and *Vixen* were wrecked on a shoal in the Bahamas.

Type: 32-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: 1757, Deptford, UK. Standard armament: 26 12-pdr lg, six 6-pdr lg, six 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 124' 4" gd × 35' × 12' 1" dh, 671 tons. Crew: 284.

SOUTHAMPTON'S PURSUIT AND CAPTURE OF VIXEN (1803) (22 November 1812). At daybreak on 22 November 1812, Lieutenant **George Reed** of the U.S. Brig **Vixen (1803)** was cruising about 90 miles east of St. Augustine, **Florida**, when he sighted a large vessel and turned to investigate, thinking it to be a **merchantman**. When he realized around 8:00 A.M. that the stranger was a warship, Reed fled to the southwest. The stranger was HMS *Southampton*, Captain **Sir James Yeo**, which made chase and gained on the American **brig**. The wind was light, and Reed ordered his men to get out the sweeps and "row" the *Vixen*. The wind rose at noon, and the chase continued with Reed pumping the brig's water overboard and jettisoning anchors, shot, and two guns. This only delayed the inevitable, and after Yeo fired several shots at the *Vixen*, Reed consulted his officers for advice and then lowered his flag around 4:00 P.M. A **prize** crew boarded the *Vixen*, and Reed was taken on board the *Southampton*, but no further transfers were made, as several days of bad weather kept the vessels from making contact. Both vessels were wrecked on a shoal on 27 November near Concepción Island, the crews being soon rescued and taken to Jamaica. Lieutenant Glen Drayton, first officer in the *Vixen*, represented the crew (Reed having died at Jamaica) in the subsequent **court-martial** and was fully acquitted. In a separate inquiry, Yeo was also acquitted of blame for the loss of the *Southampton*.

SPECIE. This term refers to money in the form of coins rather than paper bills.

SPHERICAL CASE. This was a British projectile for **artillery** that consisted of a hollow iron sphere containing powder and balls that scattered when the powder exploded. It was used in much the same way as **shells** and most commonly fired from **field guns**.

SPIKE. To spike a piece of **artillery** meant to choke up its vent, rendering the weapon useless. This could be done by various means, including the insertion of a gunner's "spike" into the vent, after which sharp thrusts of a ramrod down the bore of the gun would bend the spike over, making it difficult to remove. Repair usually involved drilling out the spike.

SPILSBURY, FRANCIS BROKELL (1784–1830). The son of an RN surgeon of the same name, Spilsbury entered the RN as a **first-class volunteer** in 1798 and became a **midshipman** in 1800. He saw continuous service with plenty of action against the French and obtained his **lieutenant's commission** in 1805. He was promoted to **commander** in March 1813 and sent in the spring of 1813 with Commodore **Sir James Yeo** to Canada, where he commanded HM Sloop *Lord Beresford* during the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May). He transferred into HM Sloop *Lord Melville* and was present during all the encounters between **Yeo's squadron** and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron** that summer and fall, including the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September).

Early in 1814, Yeo placed Spilsbury in HMS *Montreal* (recently made a **post ship**, making him a **post captain**), in which he participated in the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May). On 29 May, Yeo sent Spilsbury with a part of seamen and **Royal Marines** to support Captain **Stephen Popham's** patrol, which was searching for a convoy of American **bateaux** carrying materiel from **Oswego to Sackets Harbor**. This resulted in the British defeat at the **skirmish on Sandy Creek** (30 May), during which all the British were killed or captured. Spilsbury spent most of the rest of the war in captivity in **Massachusetts**.

Following the war, he was unable to get another commission afloat and returned to Canada, having obtained a grant of land near Co-bourg, **UC**, where he ended his days.

SPRING WELLS, TREATY OF (8 September 1815). Located near **Detroit**, this settlement was the site of council meetings held in the summer of 1815 to formalize peaceful conditions between the U.S. government and various aboriginal nations. **William Harrison** and **Duncan McArthur** acted on behalf of the government and on 8 September signed an agreement with representatives of the **Chippewa**, **Delaware**, **Miami**, **Ottawa**, **Potawatomi**, **Seneca**, **Shawnee**, and **Wyandot** nations.

SQUADRON. In regard to **dragoons**, a squadron comprised two **troops** of about 80 to 120 men. In naval terms, a squadron was a number of warships detached on special duty that could be commanded by a **rear admiral**, **captain**, or **commander**. In the **RN**, a **fleet** was divided into red, blue, and white squadrons, each of which consisted of the van, middle, and rear.

SQUARE-RIG. A square-rigged vessel had “square sails” set on spars that were at 90 degrees to the vessel’s midline when not in use rather than along the midline as the spars for a **fore-and-aft rigged** vessel were.

STAND OF COLORS. *See* **COLORS**.

STANDARD. This was a flag representing a nation. It was issued to each **regiment** and with that **unit’s color** formed the **colors**.

STANDING MILITIA. *See* **MILITIA FORCES**.

STAR (RN). *See* **LORD MELVILLE**.

“STAR-SPANGLED BANNER, THE.” *See* **KEY, FRANCIS SCOTT**.

STEPHENS, EDWARD. This officer passed his **lieutenancy** exam in 1794 but did not receive a **commission** for two years. In 1801, he was charged for involvement in the murder of three seamen in HMS *Trident* in the East Indies and apparently was acquitted. His service as a lieutenant is unknown until he was commissioned in HM Schooner *Pictou* at **Halifax** in October 1813. He accomplished one suc-

cessful capture of a **prize** in that command but suffered the loss of his vessel when Captain **Charles Stewart** in the USS *Constitution* captured the *Pictou* and then scuttled it off near Barbados on 14 February 1814. Stewart allowed Edwards to proceed on **parole** with his crew and that of a **merchantman** just captured. Stephens rose to the rank of **commander** in 1827.

STEPHENSON, FORT. This post was named for Colonel Mills Stephenson, whose **Ohio Militia** built the fort in June 1812 near modern-day Fremont, **Ohio**, on the **Sandusky River**; the works were designed and supervised by Captain **Eleazar Wood**. British **regulars** and native allies destroyed it after the fall of **Detroit** (August 1812), but American forces rebuilt it early the next year. Major General **William Harrison** considered it untenable in the summer of 1813, consisting as it did of two **blockhouses**, a single **bastion** with one 6-pdr mounted, several storehouses, and a **magazine** and surrounded by a **palisade**, a **glacis**, and a ditch. The successful defense of the fort by Major **George Croghan** during the British assault on 2 August 1813 proved Harrison wrong.

STEPHENSON, FORT, ASSAULT ON (2 August 1813). After failing to capture **Fort Meigs**, Major General **Henry Procter** took his force from the **Maumee River** about 50 miles east to Sandusky Bay and up the **Sandusky River** to destroy the American **Fort Stephenson**. He landed nearby on 1 August and the next day offered terms of surrender to the Americans that were refused. His force consisted of about 500 **regulars** (the **1/41st Regiment of Foot**, some **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles**, and **Royal Regiment of Artillery**). Some of the native warriors who had been with him at Fort Meigs were present but had little to do with this action.

The **fort** was **garrisoned** by about 150 officers and men (mainly from the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** with some of the **Twenty-fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and **12-month volunteers**, including the **Pittsburgh Blues**, **Peterburg Volunteers**, and the **Greensburg Rifles**). They were commanded by Major **George Croghan** of the Seventeenth, who had distinguished himself during the **siege of Fort Meigs** (May 1813). Fearing the British would attack, Major General **William Harrison** ordered Croghan to evacuate

the fort, but this news came too late, and Croghan resolved to defend the place. Meanwhile, Harrison had ordered 300 of the Seventeenth Infantry under Colonel Samuel Wells and a **squadron** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons** under Major James Ball to Croghan's relief from Fort Meigs; on 30 July, they fought "**Ball's Battle**" near **Fort Seneca** on the Sandusky River.

The British launched an attack late on the afternoon of 2 August. They had **batteries** of three 6-pdrs, a pair of **mortars** and a **howitzer**, and their two **gunboats** to support the attack, which was formed in two waves. The first, led by Lieutenant Colonel William Shortt, got into the ditch on the north side of the fort, where it was mowed down by blasts from the single American 6-pdr; Short was killed and Captain **Adam Muir** badly wounded. The second wave, from the south, broke under heavy fire and withdrew having achieved little. The native allies mainly stayed out of the heavy fighting, and Proctor was forced to recall his men. Hearing that a relief force was about to reach the fort, Proctor departed early on 3 August, leaving his dead and some wounded behind, and returned, greatly disappointed, to Amherstburg.

British casualties included 26 killed and 70 wounded, of whom 29 were captured; confidence in Proctor's abilities as a commander was further eroded among soldiers and warriors alike; 30 warriors were said to have suffered wounds, none mortal. The Americans had one killed and seven wounded. Croghan won great praise for his victory and was **breveted** to **lieutenant colonel**.

STEWART, CHARLES (1778–1869). Born in Philadelphia of Irish parents, Stewart went to sea as a cabin boy aboard a **merchantman** in 1791. He had become a **ship's** master when he accepted a **lieutenant's commission** in the **USN** in March 1798 in the USS *United States*. During the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800), he commanded a **schooner** and captured two French schooners and a **privateer**. He rose to **master commandant** in 1803 in the U.S. Sloop *Syren* and was involved in the raid led by **Stephen Decatur** to destroy the captured **frigate** *Philadelphia* during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He was commanding the USS *Constellation* in 1806 when he returned to the **United States** and was promoted to **captain**.

After a brief period in charge of building **gunboats** at **New York**

City, Stewart entered the merchant service again, returning to the USN in 1812. He was put in charge of the naval station at **Norfolk, Virginia**, and moved into the USS *Constitution* in the spring of 1813, making a voyage early in 1814 during which he captured several merchantmen and HM Schooner *Pictou*, Lieutenant Edward Stephens, and evaded two British **frigates** that pursued him briefly as he returned to Boston for resupply early in April.

He sailed again in December 1814 and on 23 February 1815 captured HMS *Cyane* and HM Sloop *Levant* about 200 miles northeast of Madeira. The latter vessel was recaptured by a British **squadron** under Captain **Sir George Collier**, HMS *Leander* (1813), near the Cape Verde Islands on 11 March while Stewart escaped with his other prize. The **U.S. Congress** voted him a gold medal in recognition of his feat.

Stewart continued in active service with the navy during a career that spanned 71 years, the last 17 of which as the most senior officer; Stewart rose to **rear admiral** in 1862.

STIAHTA. See ROUNDHEAD.

STOCKADE. See PALISADE.

STOCKBRIDGE. This aboriginal group belonged to the Mahican nation who lived in much the same style as the **New York Six Nations**. Their homeland straddled the modern borders of **New York, Vermont, Massachusetts**, and **Connecticut**. The Mahican sided with the British during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), and many left their homelands following that war, some of them going to Canada. Some of the Stockbridge people moved to **Oneida** country in New York. Warriors from these villages joined Brigadier General **Peter Porter**'s **brigade** during Major General **Jacob Brown**'s **campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October 1814) and were probably present during actions at **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

STONEY CREEK, UC. This was one of numerous streams that flowed over the **Niagara Escarpment** northward into **Lake Ontario**. Its mouth was about 60 miles west of the **Niagara River**.

STONEY CREEK, UC, BATTLE OF (6 June 1813). Following the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), Major General **Henry Dearborn**, plagued by ill health and ineptitude, hesitated to pursue the British force under Brigadier General **John Vincent**. Dearborn eventually ordered Brigadier General **William Winder** to march his **brigade** of about 1,300 men toward Vincent's camp at **Burlington Heights**. On 3 June, Dearborn ordered Brigadier General **John Chandler** to follow with a 1,300-man brigade and take command. Chandler met Winder at 40 Mile Creek early on 5 June, and his advance guard engaged Vincent's advanced guard briefly during the afternoon near **Stoney Creek** at the base of the **Niagara Escarpment**. Chandler encamped beside Stoney Creek on the Gage family property after leaving detachments near 40 Mile Creek and sending the **Thirteenth** and **Fourteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** with a **company** of the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** to a nearby point on the shore of **Lake Ontario** to await the arrival of a brigade of boats with supplies.

The force in Chandler's camp comprised elements of the **Fifth, Ninth, Sixteenth, Twenty-third, and Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles**; the **Second and Third U.S. Regiments of**, and the **Regiment of Light Artillery**; and the **Second U.S. Regiment of Light Dragoons**, totaling about 1,300 effectives.

Lieutenant Colonel **John Harvey** reconnoitered the American camp late on 5 June and recommended to Vincent that a night attack be made. Vincent gave him about 280 of the **1/8th Regiment of Foot** and 420 of the **1/49th Regiment of Foot** from his total force of about 1,900, and Harvey attacked at 2:00 A.M. on 6 June. A small party of **Grand River Six Nations** warriors under **John Norton** went with him. The plan was to move in silence, using **bayonets** only, but the British van broke into cheers shortly after surprising the Americans, and the battle turned into a frantic melee in the dark during which the Americans recovered and mounted a strong defense. After 45

minutes of fighting, the British withdrew, taking with them one **field gun** and a **howitzer**.

The British suffered more casualties: 23 killed, 137 wounded, and 55 missing. Vincent, who had ridden up to observe the action, was thought at first to have been lost. Alone, he fell off his horse and wandered through the dark forest until regaining his lines, somewhat shaken up, in the morning.

The Americans had 17 killed, 38 wounded, and up to 125 captured, including Chandler and Winder, taken during the heat of battle. Command devolved on Colonel **James Burn**, who conferred with other officers and decided to withdraw to the camp at 40 Mile Creek. There, on 8 June, elements of Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** bombarded the Americans, prompting their quick retreat toward Fort George. Along the way, they were met by a relief force under Major General **Morgan Lewis**, sent forward by Dearborn. The British pursued the Americans capturing 80 prisoners, 500 tents, 200 camp kettles, 150 stands of arms, and large amounts of baggage.

STONINGTON, CONNECTICUT, BOMBARDMENT OF (9–12 August 1814). A **squadron** of **RN** warships under Captain **Sir Thomas Hardy** approached Stonington, **Connecticut** (near the **Rhode Island** border), on 9 August 1814. Hardy sent in a note urging citizens to evacuate the village. Late that evening, he began a bombardment of the town that continued, on and off, until early 12 August. The **bomb vessel** *Terror* fired **shells**, the warships took turns with their **broadships**, and armed boats launched **Congreve rockets**. A handful of **Connecticut Militia** and at least one company of the **Thirtieth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** opposed the British with a pair of 18-pdr **long guns** and other **artillery** and appear to have forced a landing party to retreat. During lulls in the firing, Hardy conferred with representatives of Stonington, informing them that he sought to discourage the use of **torpedoes** that he had heard were being prepared at the village. This explanation—or the intent to alarm the New England populace—seems to be the only one for the endeavor. In the end, four buildings were destroyed, 40 were damaged, and a handful of casualties were suffered on either side.

STORMONT COUNTY MILITIA, UC. Stormont County was located around **Cornwall** and was part of the Eastern District of **UC**.

Flank companies were formed from its one **infantry regiment** in 1812, elements of which participated in the **skirmish at Akwesasne** (23 November 1812), the attack on **Ogdensburg**, (February 1813), the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** (10 November 1813), and the **raids on the Salmon River** (14–24 February 1814).

STRICKER, JOHN (1759–1825). Stricker was born in **Baltimore** and fought as a patriot during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), following which he was active in the **Maryland Militia**. From 1801, he was a naval agent at Baltimore.

In 1812, Stricker was the **brigadier general** of the Third Brigade of Maryland Militia, which had been raised mainly in Baltimore, and he was required to call out a portion of the brigade during the **Baltimore Riots** (June–August 1812). Very few men turned out, however, and, confronted by a much larger mob, Stricker decided to dismiss them. During the confusion Stricker was seriously wounded in the eye by a rock thrown by one of the rioters.

In 1813, Stricker, greatly assisted by his commander, Major General **Samuel Smith**, equipped and drilled his **brigade** until they were among the best of the state's militias. Smith used the Third to confront the British when they landed under Major General **Robert Ross** for the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September 1814). Stricker effectively deployed his men to skirmish with the British and precipitate the **battle of North Point** (12 September), but his line withered under British advance and retreated with some difficulty. Nevertheless, Smith's brigade inflicted heavy casualties on the British, killing Ross in the process and thereby contributing to their eventual withdrawal.

Stricker retired from the militia following the war and became the president of the Bank of Baltimore.

SUBALTERN. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, MILITARY.

SUBMARINE BOMBS. *See* TORPEDOES.

SUBMARINE WARFARE. *See* TORPEDOES; *TURTLE*.

SUBUNIT. This refers to the part of a **regiment** known as a **company** of **infantry**, a **troop** of **horse**, or a **battery** of **artillery**. It was usu-

ally commanded by a **captain** and generally consisted of about 100 officers and men.

SUPERIOR (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, this **ship** was laid up in 1815 and sold as a hulk in 1825.

Type: 44-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1814, **Sackets Harbor**. Actual armament: 30 32-pdr lg, two 24-pdr lg, 26 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 1,580 tons. Crew: 500.

SUPERIOR, LAKE. The largest and deepest of the Great Lakes, Lake Superior is 602 feet above sea level and drains into **Lake Huron** via the **St. Mary River**.

SURPRISE (1814A) (USN). See *EAGLE* (1814) (USN).

SURPRISE (1814B) (RN). See *SCORPION* (1813) (USN).

SWIVEL GUN. This was a light piece of **artillery**, mounted on a swivel, and could be served by two men. It fired a **shot** that was up to two pounds in weight.

SWORD. This edged weapon was in wide use during the war among officers in the **infantry** and all ranks of **cavalry**. Apart from the many different styles preferred by individual officers of the **British army**, there was the standard-issue 1796 pattern, with a straight, pointed 32-inch blade; this type of weapon was also referred to as a cut-and-thrust sword. It differed from the 1803 pattern, which was termed a **saber**, as it had a curved blade which was 30 inches long and stronger than the 1796 pattern. There were also regulations concerning swords and sabers in the **U.S. Army**, but the variation of models actually used was great. The same may be said of the use of swords among the **militia** of both nations. Officers in both navies used swords and sabers, and **cutlasses** (heavy, straight swords) were given to seamen for hand-to-hand fighting.

SYLPH (USN). Part of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's** **squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, this vessel was rigged as a **schooner** in 1813 and as a **brig** in 1814. It was laid up in 1815 and sold as hulk in 1825.

Type: 16-gun **brig-sloop**. Launch: 1813, **Sackets Harbor**, as a schooner. Actual armament: (1813) four 32-pdr lg, six 6-pdr lg; (1814) two 9-pdr lg, 16 24-pdr crde. Dimensions: 340 tons. Crew: 70.

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TANGIER ISLAND, VIRGINIA. First settled in the early 1600s, Tangier Island lies in **Chesapeake Bay** about 20 miles east southeast of the mouth of the **Potomac River**. It consists of two narrowly separated, low-lying islands, measuring about three miles long and one mile across at the widest point. The British began occupying it on 6 April 1814 during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814).

TARBELL, JOSEPH (USN) (1780–1815). Tarbell joined the USN as a **midshipman** in 1798, was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1800, and saw action in the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805). He advanced to **master commandant** in 1808; the record shows that he took furloughs from the service to voyage in **merchantmen** when no active station was available.

When the war began, he commanded the USS *John Adams* lying at **New York City**. In 1813, he was at the **Gosport** naval yard near **Norfolk, Virginia**, and commanded a flotilla of **gunboats** and, briefly, the USS *Constellation*. On 20 June 1813, he led an unsuccessful **assault on HMS Junon**. During the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June), he deployed the gunboats to help fight off the British attack. He was promoted to **captain** in July and continued at Norfolk for the balance of the war.

TAYLOR, GEORGE (?–1826). The record shows that this officer joined the **British army** as an **ensign** and had risen to **captain** by 1803 and in 1808 to **major** of the **100th Regiment of Foot**, which was in Canada. Taylor appears to have served in **LC** throughout the war. He commanded four **companies** of the 100th Foot, which **garrisoned Isle-aux-Noix** in June 1813, and he led the force that succeeded in the **capture of the Eagle (1812) and Growler (1812)** (3

June). Later that month, he was promoted to **lieutenant colonel** and made the **inspecting field officer** of **militia** in **BNA**. Taylor received a **CB** in 1817 and then went on **half pay**. He died at Grenville, LC.

TAYLOR, JOHN. Taylor (RN) was the commander of HM Sloop *Es-
piegle* on 24 February 1813, when the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Master
Commandant **James Lawrence**, defeated HM Sloop *Peacock*, Com-
mander **William Peake**, off the Demerara River, Guyana, South
America. Taylor, whose vessel was anchored in the mouth of the
river, was later **court-martialed** for not having sailed to support the
Peacock and dismissed from the service but reinstated as a junior
commander in 1817. It was said that damage to his vessel had pre-
vented it from sailing.

TAYLOR, ZACHARY (1784–1850). A native of **Virginia**, Taylor
joined the **U.S. Army** as a **lieutenant** in the **Seventh U.S. Regiment
of Infantry** in 1808 and rose to **captain** in 1810. He commanded
about 50 men of his **regiment** at **Fort Harrison** in 1812, earning
recognition (and eventually promotion to **major** by **brevet**) for his
successful defense of the post when it was attacked by native forces
between 3 and 11 September.

Taylor spent a good portion of 1813 on recruitment, and early in
spring of 1814, he brought two **companies** of the Seventh Infantry to
St. Louis. In May 1814, he was promoted to major into the **Twenty-
sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** but remained with the Seventh, al-
though he missed their action at the **occupation of Prairie du Chien**
(2 June) and the **capture of Fort Shelby** (20 July) and the **first skir-
mish at the Rock Island Rapids** (21 July). Taylor did lead his men
as part of a 430-man expedition to attack **Saukenuk**, which ended
in defeat at the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** on 5
September 1814.

Following the war, he led a successful career in the military and
became the twelfth president of the **United States** in 1849.

TECUMSEH (ca. 1768–1813). Tecumseh is believed to have been
born near Chillicothe, **Ohio**, his name meaning “Shooting Star.” His
father was a **Shawnee**, and his mother may have been of **Creek** de-
scend. His bravery in battle brought him to prominence during the

1790s. After the **Treaty of Greenville** was signed in 1795, he became a band chief, representing his people at numerous councils.

Lalawethika, Tecumseh's brother, became the **Prophet**, a spiritual leader for the Shawnee who preached the need to live a pure aboriginal life in order to be freed from the oppression of white men. With his brother, Tecumseh began to promote the idea of forming a confederacy of aboriginal nations as a means of resisting the endless encroachment on their homelands. In 1808, they established a settlement on the Tippecanoe River in **Indiana Territory** that became known as **Prophetstown**, which they hoped would become a center for the confederacy. After 1809, Tecumseh traveled each year to seek support for his confederacy, ranging mainly through the **Old Northwest**. He visited the British on the **Detroit River** several times, went west to the Missouri River, made one trip to the **Creek** nation in **Alabama**, and may have traveled as far east as the **Niagara River**.

Tecumseh's activities brought him into conflict with **William Harrison**, the governor of Indiana Territory, whose policies Tecumseh rejected. By 1809, he was letting the British know, through **Matthew Elliott**, that he would be their ally in a war against the **United States**. In 1811, while Tecumseh was on one of his travels, Harrison led a military force to attack Prophetstown, ending with the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November).

When the war began in June 1812, Tecumseh stood out as the most influential of the war chiefs, bringing hundreds of warriors from the **Old Northwest** to **Amherstburg** to resist Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August). He stood with Major General **Isaac Brock** at the **capture of Detroit** (16 August). Tecumseh wanted to follow up this victory with a campaign against American posts in the Old Northwest, but the conditions of the **Prevost–Dearborn armistice** delayed Colonel **Henry Procter** from supporting the campaign with **regular** troops. Against his advice, other chiefs led their warriors in piecemeal and unsuccessful attacks at places such as **Forts Harrison** and **Wayne** in September 1812.

Tecumseh then withdrew from the war front until the following spring, when he went to Amherstburg with about 1,200 warriors. He participated in Procter's **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July 1813) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August), which

were largely unsuccessful. Tecumseh's force had tripled in size by that time, but Procter would not initiate another expedition. By this point, Tecumseh had lost faith in Procter (and many of his warriors were leaving his force), and when Procter announced his plan to retreat from the **Detroit River** following the British defeat at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September), Tecumseh rebuked him.

Nevertheless, Tecumseh joined the disastrous British retreat up the **Thames River** valley and stood with Procter's **regulars** and the remaining 500 to 800 warriors to fight the **Army of the Northwest** under Major General **William Harrison** at **Moraviantown** on 5 October. During this brief battle, Tecumseh was killed by a shot through the body, his assailant said to have been Colonel **Richard Johnson** of the **Kentucky Militia**. Although reports vary considerably, Tecumseh's body was most likely scalped and mutilated by the Kentuckians, its burial place never identified.

No chief could rival the influence Tecumseh had commanded during his life. Most of his followers returned to their homes in the Old Northwest, where some continued to raid American settlements. Several hundred of his warriors, the "**Western Indians**," gathered around **Burlington Heights** and fought with the British on the **Niagara Peninsula** in 1814. Some were involved in the events around **Prairie du Chien** on the upper Mississippi River that summer, but after "Shooting Star" passed, no one could rally thousands of warriors to defend their way of life in the region again.

TENDER. Any small vessel used by a warship for inshore operations and tasks, such as provisions, was considered a tender. Some **prizes** were converted into tenders, such as Captain **David Porter**'s use of the **Essex Junior** during his Pacific Ocean cruise in 1813–1814.

TENEDOS (RN). The *Tenedos*, Captain **Hyde Parker**, was part of the **squadron** that captured the USS *President* (1800), Captain **Stephen Decatur**, on 14 January 1815. It was broken up in March 1875.

Type: 38-gun **fifth-rate**. Launch: Chatham, UK, 1812. Standard armament: (1812) 28 18-pdr lg, four 9-pdr lg, 14 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 150' gd × 40' 4" × 12' 9½" dh, 1,082 tons. Crew: 284.

TENNESSEE. Tennessee became a state in 1796 with its capital at Knoxville. In 1810, its population was about 262,000. In June 1812,



The Death of Tecumseh, 5 October 1813. Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C40894

the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—three for, 0 against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governor was Willie Blount (**Republican**, 1809–1815). **Andrew Jackson** was a prominent **militia** officer who later received a **commission** in the **U.S. Army** and rose to fame.

TENNESSEE MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1812, there were 29,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **Tennessee Militia**. In both of the federal government's calls for **militia** mobilization (May 1812 and July 1814), the state's quota was 2,500.

The militia served with distinction during the **Creek War** (1813–1814) and in 1814 were with Major General **Andrew Jackson** at his **capture of Pensacola** (7 November). They also played a critical role in Jackson's defense of **New Orleans**, and **regiments** were present during the **attack on Villeré's plantation** (23 December), and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December) and, in 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January) and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

Prominent officers in the militia included David Coffee, William Carroll, and **Andrew Jackson**.

TENSKWATAWA. *See* PROPHET, THE.

10TH ROYAL VETERAN BATTALION (British army). This **unit** was raised in 1806 and was made up of veteran soldiers willing to serve in Canada with the promise of an eventual land grant. It arrived in Canada in 1807 and was stationed at various posts. One of its **companies** participated in the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812), and a handful of its men were at the second **battle of Frenchtown** (22 January 1813), while a few others were at the **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August 1814).

Its most prominent officer during the war was **Charles Roberts**.

TENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each; the following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. It recruited mainly in **North Carolina** at first, later drawing men from **Georgia**, **South Carolina**, and **Virginia**.

Elements of the regiment were present at numerous actions, including the following: 1813, **Odelltown** (20 September) and **Chateauguay** (26 October 1813); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the latter stage of Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October).

Among its notable officers during the war was William S. Hamilton.

TEYONINHOKARAWEN. *See* NORTON, JOHN.

THAMES, BATTLE OF THE. *See* MORAVIANTOWN, BATTLE OF.

THAMES RIVER, UC. This river, originally known as the **Tranche River**, flows through the southwestern part of Ontario (UC), and empties into **Lake St. Clair**. In 1812, a road along most of its length linked places at the western end of **Lake Ontario**, such as **Burling-**

ton Heights, with **Sandwich**, **Fort Amherstburg**, and **Amherstburg**.

THIRD-RATE. In the **RN**, a warship with 64 to 80 guns on two decks fit this category and was the smallest of the **ships of the line**. The majority of them were listed as **74-gun ships**.

3RD REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1572, this **unit** was also known as the East Kent Regiment. The 1/3rd arrived in Canada in August 1814 from service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and was stationed at **Chambly, LC**. It was involved in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY. This **unit** was formed in January 1812 to consist of two **battalions** of 10 **companies** each. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in the Third and Ninth **Military Districts**. In May 1814, it was consolidated with the **First and Second U.S. Regiments of Artillery** to form the **Corps of Artillery**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October); 1813, **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2 November), and **Hoople's Creek** (10 November); 1814, **Oswego** (5–6 May) and the **attack on Fort Bowyer** (15 September).

Among its most prominent officers during the war were **Alexander Macomb** and **George Mitchell**.

THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1796, this **regiment** was discharged in 1802 and then reorganized in April 1808. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Pennsylvania**, **Delaware**, and western **New Jersey**. In 1814, it recruited in **Kentucky** and **Mississippi Territory**.

Elements of the regiment were present at the **captures of Mobile** (15 April 1813) and **Pensacola** (7 November 1814).

THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES. This **unit** was formed in February 1814 to consist of 10 **companies**. They were recruited in **North Carolina, Virginia, and Tennessee** but do not appear to have seen any battle action.

13TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1685, this **unit** was known as the 1st Somersetshire Regiment. Its one and only **battalion**, numbering about 750, arrived at **Quebec** from Martinique in June 1813 and was stationed on the **Richelieu River**, where a detachment participated in “**Murray’s Raid**” (29 July–4 August). In 1814, elements of the **regiment** were present at the **battle of Lacolle Mill** (30 March), **Sir George Prevost’s Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Richard Handcock** and William Williams.

THIRTEENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. The following June, this was adjusted to be one battalion of 10 companies. It was originally raised mainly in **New York**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in upper New York and **Vermont**. The unit was known as the “Jolly Snorters” since it was their style to wear extravagant mustaches, as ordered by Lieutenant Colonel John Chrystie; on the march to the **Niagara Frontier** in 1812, some of the officers conspired to get everyone in the regiment to shave off their mustaches when Chrystie forbade them permission to visit a local town.

Elements of the regiment were involved in various actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October) and **Smyth’s failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **York** (27 April), **Fort George** (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (8 July), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were John Chrystie, Mordecai Myers, and **John Wool**.

THIRTIETH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and recruited in **Vermont**. Elements of the **regiment** were present during the **battle of Chateauguay** (26 October 1813) and, in 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), the **bombardment of Stonington, Connecticut** (9–12 August), and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

THIRTY-EIGHTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and recruited in **Maryland** before being assigned to posts at **Baltimore** and **Norfolk, Virginia**. In 1814, elements were also present during the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek** (8–26 June), the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Among its notable officers were George Keyser and William Steuart.

THIRTY-FIFTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and was ordered in 1814 to recruit in **Virginia**. Several companies were stationed at **Hampton, Virginia**, in the summer of 1813 following the **capture and occupation of Hampton** (25–26 June).

THIRTY-FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and recruited in **Vermont**. Elements of the **regiment** were present at the following: 1813, **Chateauguay** (26 October); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

One of its notable officers was Daniel Dana.

THIRTY-FOURTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and was ordered in 1814 to recruit in **Maine**. Elements of the **regiment** were present during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814).

39TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Formed in 1702, this **unit** was known as the Dorsetshire Regiment. The 1/39th saw service

in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) before being sent to Canada, where it arrived in the summer of 1814. Elements of the **regiment** were involved in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

One of its notable officers was Charles Bruce.

THIRTY-NINTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and was ordered in 1814 to recruit in **Tennessee**. Elements of the **regiment** were present at the **capture of Pensacola** (7 November 1814).

THIRTY-SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813, and elements of the **regiment** were present during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814).

One of its prominent officers during the war was **Andrew Holmes**.

37TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Formed in 1702, this **unit** was known as the North Hampshire Regiment. The 1/37th arrived at **Quebec** from service in Europe in the summer of 1814 and was then sent to **Kingston, UC**, and was carried in Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron** to the **Niagara Peninsula** in November. It took post at **Chippawa** but did not see any action.

THIRTY-SEVENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and was ordered in 1814 to recruit in **Connecticut** but does not appear to have seen any battle action.

THIRTY-SIXTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and recruited in the **District of Columbia** and **Virginia** before being assigned to posts near **Washington**. In 1814, at least one **company** was activated to support Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla** during the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek** (8–26 June), but Barney received little cooperation from Colonel Henry Carberry and reported numerous protests from local residents about the unit's conduct. Elements were also present during the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August) and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Among its notable officers were Henry Carberry and William Scott.

THIRTY-THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 and was ordered in 1814 to recruit in **Maine**. Elements of the **regiment** were present at the **battle of Chateauguay** (26 October 1813) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814).

Among its notable officers was Isaac Lane.

TICONDEROGA (USN). The **USN** bought this vessel, originally intended to be a steamboat, on the stocks and equipped it as a warship. It was part of Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron** at the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814. It was laid up in 1815 and left to decay.

Type: 17-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1814, **Vergennes, Vermont**. Actual armament: four 18-pdr lg, 10 12-pdr lg, three 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 120' ld × 26', 350 tons. Crew: 115.

TIGRESS (USN). The vessel was part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813 and in Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** in 1814. A British party under Lieutenant **Miller Worsley** captured it on **Lake Huron** on 3 September 1814. It was renamed the **Confiance (1814B)**, laid up in 1817, and left to decay.

Type: 1-gun **schooner**. Launch: 1813, **Erie, Pennsylvania**. Actual armament: (1813) one 32-pdr lg. Dimensions: 60' 6" ud × 17' 9" × 5' 3" dh, 52 tons. Crew: 28.

TIGRESS AND SCORPION (1813), CAPTURE OF (3 and 6 September 1814). After the **destruction of the Nancy** (14 August 1814) at the **Nottawasaga River**, Captain **Arthur Sinclair** set sail in the U.S. Sloop **Lawrence** for **Detroit**, leaving the U.S. Schooners **Tigress** and **Scorpion** (1813) to patrol the northern waters of **Lake Huron** and prevent British supplies from reaching **Michilimackinac**. Lieutenant **Miller Worsley, RN**, who had unsuccessfully defended the **Nancy**, loaded two **bateaux** and a canoe with supplies and set out with his detachment of 22 seamen for Michilimackinac on 18 Au-

gust. Six days later, they reached **St. Joseph Island**, where they saw the *Tigress* and *Scorpion* in the distance; Worsley made a close examination of them from the canoe late that night. After dark on 29 August, the British slipped by the Americans and hurried to Michilimackinac, where they arrived on 1 September.

Worsley proposed the capture of the two vessels to Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall**, who gave him a detachment of 58 officers and men of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles** and two men of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, all under the command of Lieutenant **Andrew Bulger**. **Robert Dickson** also went with four other officers of the **British Indian Department** and several chiefs. Including Worsley's seamen as well, the force set out on 1 September in four bateaux and were followed by up to 200 native warriors in canoes. By the next evening, they reached Drummond Island (seven miles southwest of St. Joseph Island), where they landed and hid the bateaux.

On 3 September, Worsley made a reconnaissance and discovered the *Tigress* at anchor by itself near St. Joseph. That evening, the force set out in the four bateaux (leaving the natives behind) and silently approached the **schooner**. Approaching from both sides, the British got within 10 yards before the *Tigress* crew saw them and fired a gun and small arms at them. The British climbed aboard and, after a fast and violent action, seized the vessel. The Americans suffered four killed and four wounded (among the latter was the commander Sailing Master **Stephen Champlin**), while the British had one dead and seven wounded (including Bulger). Worsley took 28 prisoners, most of whom were soldiers of the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, and sent them under guard to Michilimackinac.

The next day, Worsley was getting ready to go in search of the *Scorpion* when it appeared in the distance. Late on 5 September, it anchored two miles away, not suspecting any trouble as the American flag had been left flying. Before dawn on 6 September, Worsley brought the *Tigress* down on the *Scorpion*, fired a round from the 24-pdr **long gun** and a volley from the soldiers, and boarded. Lieutenant **Daniel Turner** of the *Scorpion* surrendered quickly, having had two men killed, two wounded, and 35 captured (most of whom were from the Seventeenth Infantry); the British had one wounded.

Worsley and Bulger returned to Michilimackinac triumphant. The

Tigress and *Scorpion* were renamed **Confiance (1814B)** and **Surprise (1814B)**, respectively, and pressed into service, allowing the British to keep control of the upper lakes.

TIPPECANOE, BATTLE OF (7 November 1811). Following the signing of the **Treaty of Fort Wayne (1809)**, some native forces came into conflict with American officials in the **Old Northwest**. Wrongly believing that the followers of **Tecumseh** and the **Prophet (Tenskwatawa)** were responsible for attacks on American settlers, Governor **William Harrison** received permission from Secretary of War **William Eustis** to confront them at **Prophetstown**.

He marched from Vincennes, **Indiana**, in September 1811 with about 400 officers and men of the **Fourth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** with a **company** of the **Seventh Infantry** under Colonel **John Boyd**, 500 Indiana militia, and 120 **Kentucky Militia**, about 200 of which were mounted. They reached their destination on 6 November and camped about one mile northwest of Prophetstown.

Tecumseh was not present, and the Prophet and his chiefs called for an attack on the American camp that night. The exact strength of the force, which included **Kickapoos**, **Potawatomis**, and **Wyandots**, is unknown, but it is said that the American likely outnumbered the natives two to one.

The natives attacked before dawn on 7 November and drove in portions of the barricaded American camp during fierce fighting before retreating in the face of counterattacks on their flanks. The battle raged for nearly three hours and resulted in about 200 American casualties, among whom were 60 dead. Native casualties may have been as high as 50.

The Prophet and his people abandoned their village, which Harrison's force destroyed late on 8 November, burning its food stores and plundering native corpses they exhumed at the burial ground. Harrison's force also had to destroy most of its own stores to empty enough wagons to transport the wounded back to friendly territory.

Harrison proclaimed the battle a great victory, although all evidence showed the opposite, including the fact that the Prophet's supporters had rebuilt the village within two months. Turning the misrepresented facts into a highpoint in his career, Harrison created

the famous slogan “Tippecanoe and Tyler, too” during his successful bid for the U.S. presidency in 1840.

TOMPKINS, FORT. This fort, named for **New York** Governor Daniel Tompkins, was developed at **Sackett Harbor** from the beginning of the war. It stood on a rise of land, facing northwest to **Lake Ontario**, covering the mouth of the **Black River**, with the **USN** dockyard to its rear. By the spring of 1813, it was surrounded by a **palisade** and contained **barracks** and **blockhouse** and a large **battery** with a **cavalier**, mounting a 32-pdr **long gun**. By late 1814, the fort had been extended, strengthened, and heavily armed.

In 1813, one of the batteries at **Black Rock, New York**, was also referred to as Fort Tompkins.

TONAWANDAS. This aboriginal group was part of the **Seneca** nation of the **New York Six Nations**.

TOPINBEE. *See* FIVE MEDALS.

TORPEDOES. From the late 1790s, American inventor Robert Fulton developed schemes for **submarine warfare** based, in part, on the work of David Bushnell during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783). Fulton conducted experiments in France, England, and the **United States** with submersible craft and various forms of underwater explosive devices that resemble modern marine mines but that he termed “torpedoes.” They were also commonly known as “Fulton’s machines,” “infernal machines,” “powder machines,” and “submarines bombs.”

Fulton’s torpedoes were copper casks containing 10 to 200 pounds of gunpowder. The firing mechanism was a form of the **flintlock** used on small arms and **artillery** and was activated by direct contact with an object or by a cleverly built timing mechanism. Fulton experimented with numerous ways of delivering the torpedoes to their targets, none of which worked with any efficient consistency. During the war, the few instances of their use saw them floated on currents or tides toward British shipping.

Although Fulton promoted the concept with the Department of the Navy, no concerted effort appears to have been made to use torpe-

does until the **U.S. Congress** passed “an act to encourage the destruction of armed vessels of war of the enemy” on 3 March 1813, promising half the estimated value of any British warship to anyone who could destroy it.

In April 1813, Elijah Mix, a **sailing master** in the USN, applied to Secretary of the Navy **William Jones** for support in using torpedoes against British shipping during Admiral **Sir John Warren’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September). Jones made a supply of Fulton’s torpedoes available to Mix and directed Captain **Charles Gordon**, USN, at **Baltimore** to provide him with an open boat and crew. It was, presumably, Mix who subsequently made several unsuccessful attempts to blow up British **ships**. A torpedo was discovered by the guard boats of the 74-gun *Victorious* on 5 June, drifting with the ebb tide off Willoughby Point, about five miles west of **Lynnhaven Bay, Virginia**. Several attempts were made on the 74-gun *Plantagenet* off Cape Henry (the northern lip of the Chesapeake’s mouth), the closest one resulting in a near miss on 24 July; the torpedo blew up near the ship but only showered water on its decks.

Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** considered it hypocrisy that the American government would decry his incendiary methods during incidents such as the **raid on Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 April 1813) while supporting an effort to kill 600 British seamen in one stroke by such devious means.

Another near miss occurred on 25 March 1814 off the Thames River, **Connecticut**. Under cover of early morning darkness, an open boat commanded by Jeremiah Holmes directed a drifting torpedo close to the 74-gun *La Hogue*, Captain Thomas Capel, which blew up under its bows, causing no damage. This weapon differed from Fulton’s torpedoes in that it was 30 feet long and 7 inches in diameter with a crossbar holding hooks meant to snag on a hull and ignite 75 pounds of powder. In reprisal, the British executed the **raid at Pettipaug Point** (7 April 1814).

A third known attempt occurred on the upper **St. Lawrence River** in the third week of November 1814, when Midshipman James McGowan, USN, got permission from Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** to attack HMS *St. Lawrence* at **Kingston, UC**, with a floating device

that may have been a torpedo sent to Chauncey by Fulton. McGowan fled from British guard boats and did not reach his objective.

Two similar attempts at destroying British shipping involved the submersible *Turtle* and the use of the explosion vessel *Eagle* (1813).

TORY PARTY. Originated in the 1600s, this political party came to stand for support of the monarchy and the rights of landowners. Akin to the American **Federalist Party**, it drew its strength from the privileged classes in opposition to the Whigs who drew their support from the rising middle class and bore similarities to the American **Republican Party**. Under Prime Ministers the Duke of Portland (1807–1809) and Spencer Perceval (1809–1812), Tory governments developed policies that helped cause the War of 1812 and, under **Lord Liverpool**, prosecuted that war until it became too unpopular, threatened the ailing treasury, and became a distraction to more significant affairs in Europe. Among the many influential Tories during the war were **Lord Bathurst**, **Lord Castlereigh**, **Henry Goulburn**, **Lord Liverpool**, and **Lord Melville**.

TOTTEN, JOSEPH GILBERT (1788–1864). Born in New Haven, Connecticut, Totten entered the **U.S. Military Academy** in 1802 and graduated in 1805 as a second **lieutenant** in the **Corps of Engineers**. After a period engaged in surveying in the **Northwest Territory**, he went to **New York City**, where he worked on its defenses, rising to first **lieutenant** in 1810 and **captain** in 1812.

Totten's first assignment during the war was to join the army under Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** on the **Niagara Frontier**, where he was subsequently captured during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812). After his **exchange**, he returned to the northern frontier and was present during the **battles of Fort George** (27 May 1813) and **Stoney Creek** (5 June) and then worked to alter and improve the defenses of **Fort George**. During the summer, he was transferred to **Sacket's Harbor** and was present during Major General **James Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November). Following this, he helped prepare and fortify the camp at **French Mills, New York**. In 1814, he built defenses at **Plattsburgh** and was present during the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11

September 1814). Totten spent the last months of the war on the Niagara Frontier again.

Totten remained in the army and rose to prominence at the head of the engineer corps and just before his death was **breveted to major general**.

TOUISSANT'S ISLAND, SKIRMISH AT (16 September 1812). On 16 September 1812, about 20 Americans under a Captain Griffin departed from **Ogdensburg** in two boats, one of which had a 6-pdr **long gun** to intercept a British supply convoy of 40 **bateaux** coming upriver. They landed at Touissant's Island, about 10 miles down river of Ogdensburg, waiting to spring their trap. Major Rowland Heathcote, in charge of the detachment of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiment** escorting the convoy, spotted the Americans and was warned by a local citizen and went ashore. The Americans then advanced in the **gunboat** but were held off by Heathcote's men while some of the **regulars** and part of the **Leeds County Militia dragoons** repulsed the second boat's attempt to land. The First **Grenville County Militia** also came to the fight. The American plan failed, and they suffered at least two dead and five wounded, while the British lost one killed and three wounded.

TOWSON, NATHAN (1784–1854). A resident of **Maryland**, where he was a **militia** officer, Towson joined the **U.S. Army** as a **captain** in the **Second U.S. Regiment of Artillery** in March 1812. He arrived at **Black Rock, New York**, on the **Niagara Frontier** with Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott's** detachment in October 1812 and participated in the **capture of the Caledonia and Detroit** (9 October), for which he was **breveted to major**. Towson commanded a **battery** at **Lewiston** during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October).

In the spring of 1813, he participated in the fighting at the **battle of Fort George** (27 May), where he was wounded, and at the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June), where his **battery** was captured and he was briefly taken prisoner.

In March 1814, Towson transferred to the **Corps of Artillery**. He continued to demonstrate his competence by ably supporting now-Brigadier General Scott's First Brigade at the **battle of Chippawa** (5 July) by engaging the British **artillery** directly and then its **infantry**

when it attempted to contact Scott's line with **bayonets** fixed. For this, Towson was breveted to **lieutenant colonel**. At the **battle of Lundy's Lane** (25 July), Towson again came into action, but he was unable to secure a good position for his guns and saw most of his men fall because of superior British gunnery. He commanded "Towson's Battery" at **Snake Hill** in **Fort Erie** during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) and saw intense combat during the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August) and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September). In recognition of his conduct, he was breveted to **colonel**.

Towson remained in the army following the war. His formal promotion to colonel was contested, and he ended up fulfilling the duties of the paymaster general for the remainder of his career. He received a brevet to **major general** in 1848 and ended his days at **Washington**.

TRANCHE RIVER. *See* THAMES RIVER.

TRAVERSE. This was a **parapet** built across an open space within a **fort** to provide protection against **enfilading** fire.

TRIANON TARIFF (5 August 1810). French custom officials received a document of this date that indicated the duties to be collected on a list of articles commonly carried by American traders. The U.S. minister to France, **John Armstrong**, sent a copy of the tariff to President **James Madison**, suggesting that it contradicted the content of the **Cadore letter** of August 1810, which stipulated that Americans would be able to deliver goods to France "without difficulty."

TRIPOLITAN WAR (1801–1805). The Barbary states (Morocco, Algeria, Tunisia, and Tripolitania) charged tributes from some nations whose merchants sailed in the Mediterranean Sea in return for immunity from raids by Barbary pirates. The **United States** paid these tributes until 1801, when Yusuf Karamanli declared war on the United States for not making larger payments, at which point **USN squadrons** began operating in the Mediterranean to protect American shipping and to act against Tripoli. These campaigns provided wartime experience for many of the officers who would become prominent

during the War of 1812. Negotiations resulted in a peace treaty in June 1805.

TRIPPE (USN). The USN bought this vessel, which became part of Master Commandant **Oliver Perry's squadron** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** on 10 September 1813. It was destroyed in a British raid at **Buffalo** on 30 December 1813.

Type: 1-gun **sloop**. Launch: 1803, **Black Rock, New York**, as **merchantman Contractor**. Actual armament: (1813) one 24-pdr lg. Dimensions: 60 tons. Crew: 38.

TROOP. In regard to **dragoons**, a troop comprised about 46 men, whether mounted or not. The term was sometimes used in reference to **companies** of the **Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers**.

TRUCKS. These were small-diameter but heavily built wheels fitted to the heavy carriages for **garrison guns** and naval guns.

TRUNNIONS. These two cylindrical pivots, mounted opposite each other near the middle point of a piece of **artillery's** length, supported the gun on its **carriage** and allowed it to be elevated.

TUCKER, JOHN GOULSTON PRICE (?–1841). The record shows that Tucker joined the **British army** as an **ensign** 1795 and was a **lieutenant** the next year, a **captain** in 1801, and a **major** in 1805, when he appears to have seen service in India and South Africa. He was put on **half pay** in 1810 and, apparently, not employed again until transferred as a major into the **1/41st Regiment of Foot** in January 1814.

Said to have been at the **raid on Lewiston** (19 December 1813), Tucker is known to have been in command of **Fort Niagara** in the spring of 1814. He was made the **lieutenant colonel** of the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia** and then **brevetted colonel** and led the intended raid on **Black Rock and Buffalo** that was stopped by the **skirmish at Conjocta Creek** (3 August). He commanded the reserve during the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August). Tucker went on half pay in 1817 and left the army 10 years later; he died in Paris.

TUCKER, THOMAS TUDOR (1775–1852). Tucker was born in **Bermuda** and began his naval career in the East India Company Bombay Marine. He then entered the **RN** as a **masters mate** in 1793 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in 1800. He became a **commander** in 1808 and was **commissioned** in HM Sloop ***Cherub*** in 1809. When he was promoted to **captain** in 1811, the *Cherub* was rated as a **post ship**. *Cherub* sailed in March 1813 with HMS ***Phoebe***, Captain **James Hillyar**, and HM Sloop *Raccoon*, Commander W. Black, to attack American trading posts in the Pacific Northwest. The *Phoebe* and *Cherub* found the USS *Essex*, Captain **David Porter**, at Valparaíso, Chile, in February 1814 and captured it after a pitched battle on 28 March. Tucker had two brief commissions afloat following the war, was made a **KB** in 1840, and advanced to **rear admiral** in 1846.

TURNER, DANIEL (?–1850). A native of **Rhode Island**, Turner joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1808 and was promoted to **lieutenant** in March 1813 at the time that he went with Master Commandant **Oliver Perry** to the Great Lakes. He commanded the U.S. Brig ***Caledonia*** at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), which, because of its sluggishness, was said to have prevented Master Commandant **Jesse Elliott**, stationed behind him in the U.S. Sloop ***Niagara***, from closing with the British, ultimately sparking the **Perry–Elliott controversy**. Turner was a close confidante of Perry's but was later required by Elliott to write a defense of his conduct during the battle.

Turner commanded the U.S. Schooner ***Scorpion*** (1813) in 1814 during Captain **Arthur Sinclair's campaign on the upper lakes** (July–September) and participated in the capture of the **merchantman Mink**, the **raid at St. Mary River** (23–26 July), the **assault on Michilimackinac** (4 August), and the **destruction of the Nancy** (14 August). Turner had the misfortune to have his **schooner** captured by a party of British seamen and soldiers under Lieutenant **Miller Worley** while cruising near **St. Joseph Island** on 6 September; the U.S. Schooner ***Tigress***, his partner, had been captured three days before. He was exonerated in the resulting **court-martial** and continued in the service, ending his days as **commodore** of the **squadron** at Brazil.

TURTLE. This was the name of a submersible craft outfitted in **New York City** for use against the British **squadron blockading** that place and the **Connecticut** and **Rhode Island** shoreline. Commanded by a Mr. Berrian, the submersible washed ashore during a gale near the eastern end of Long Island on 26 June 1814. It had been spotted from British warships, and a party that went on shore provided a full description of the craft before blowing it up. The *Turtle* was 23 feet long and 10 feet wide and drew six feet of water with one foot riding above the surface. It was built of heavy timbers and covered with half-inch iron plates. Crewed by 12 men, it could tow five **torpedoes** and could probably have been fitted with a boom for placing a torpedo against a **ship's** hull.

As with the use of torpedoes, the motivation for employing the submersible may have been “an act to encourage the destruction of armed vessels of war of the enemy,” passed by the **U.S. Congress** on 3 March 1813, which promised half the estimated value of any British warship to anyone who could destroy it.

Either the *Turtle* or a predecessor was rumored in July 1813 to have been in operation off Connecticut. This “diving boat” navigated by “a gentleman from Norwich” was said to have made several dives and had even come close to attaching a torpedo to the hull of HMS *Ramilles*, Captain **Sir Thomas Hardy**. British boats were said to have chased a submersible during this period, but none was ever brought to light.

TUSCARORA. See GRAND RIVER SIX NATIONS; NEW YORK SIX NATIONS; SIX NATIONS.

TWELFTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. Originally organized in 1798, this **regiment** was discharged in 1800 and then reorganized in January 1812 to comprise two **battalions** of nine **companies** each. This was adjusted the following June to one battalion of 10 companies. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Maryland** and **Virginia**.

Elements of the regiment were present at numerous actions, including the following: 1812, **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), the **Ball property** (17 July), **Wilkinson's**

campaign on the St. Lawrence River (October–November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, the latter stage of Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Among its notable officers during the war was Robert C. Nicholas.

TWELVE MILE CREEK. This creek flows north on the **Niagara Peninsula** into **Lake Ontario** at the modern-day city of St. Catharines, Ontario, known as **Shipman’s Corners** in 1812.

12-MONTH VOLUNTEERS (U.S.). This term is used herein to identify forces serving under the strictures of the **Volunteer Military Corps Act** of 6 February 1812.

TWENTIETH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Maryland** and **Virginia**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present during various actions, including the following: 1812, **Smyth’s failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Hoople’s Creek** (10 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March).

Among its most active officers during the war were Isaac Coles and Thomas M. Randolph.

TWENTY-EIGHTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies** and recruited in **Kentucky**. Elements of the **regiment** were present during the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813) and the **skirmish at the Longwoods** (4 March 1814).

TWENTY-FIFTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. It was originally raised in **Connecticut**, **New Hampshire**, and **New**

York. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Rhode Island** and **Connecticut**.

Elements of the **regiment** participated in various actions, including the following: 1813, **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), and **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July). Following this latter action, the remains of the regiment were sent to **Buffalo**. In September, they crossed to **Fort Erie**, where they formed part of the reserve during the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Edward Gaines** and **Thomas Jesup**.

21ST REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Originally raised in 1678, this **unit** was known as the Royal North British Fusiliers. In July 1814, the 1/21st arrived at **Bermuda** from service in Italy, where it was part of Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane’s Chesapeake Bay campaign** (April–September 1814), and participated in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August), and the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), which included the **battle of North Point** (12 September).

It then joined **Cochrane’s Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815) and was present during the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December), the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January 1815), the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January), and the **capture of Fort Bowyer** (12 February). The **regiment** was granted the **battle honor** of “Bladensburg.”

Among its notable officers were William Paterson and Robert Renny.

TWENTY-FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies** and was recruited mainly in **Connecticut**, **New York**, and **New Hampshire**. It trained at **Burlington, Vermont**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in **Massachusetts** and **New Hampshire**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at various actions, includ-

ing the following: 1813, **York** (27 April), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Wilkinson’s campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), and **Crysler’s Farm** (11 November); 1814, Major General **Jacob Brown’s campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **James Miller** and **Eleazer Ripley**.

TWENTY-FOURTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. It was formed mainly with recruits from **Tennessee**, although from spring 1813 it was to recruit also in **Louisiana** and **Mississippi Territory**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at the following: 1813, **Fort Stephenson** (2 August), **Put-in-Bay** (10 September), and **Fort Niagara** (18–19 December); 1814, **Longwoods** (4 March), **Port Dover** (14–16 May), and **Sinclair’s expedition to the upper lakes** (July–September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Edward Gaines** and **Andrew Holmes**.

29TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). Formed in 1702, this **unit** was known as the Worcestershire Regiment. It saw service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) and arrived at **Halifax** from Gibraltar in August 1814. Elements of the **regiment** were part of the **Maine campaign** (July 1814–April 1815).

TWENTY-NINTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies** and recruited in **New York**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present during the following: 1813, **Chateauguay** (26 October 1813); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were Melancthon Smith and **John Wool**.

TWENTY-SECOND U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. It was originally raised mainly in **Pennsylvania** and later in **Delaware** and **New Jersey**.

Elements of the **regiment** participated in various actions, including the following: 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Moraviantown** (5 October), **Wilkinson's campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November), **French Creek** (1–2 November), and **Hoople's Creek** (10 November); 1814, **Port Dover** (14–16 May), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Fort Erie** (3 July), **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were Hugh Brady and George McFeely.

27TH REGIMENT OF FOOT (British army). First recruited in 1690, this **unit** was known as the Inniskilling Regiment. The 1/27th saw service in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814), while the 3/27th was in Spain before arriving at **Quebec** from France in August 1814. Both **battalions** participated in **Sir George Prevost's Lake Champlain campaign** (August–September) and the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September). The 3rd/27th was sent to **Halifax** in November 1814, and part of it was later stationed at **Castine, Maine**. The 1st/27th was sent to join the force at **New Orleans**, but news of peace with the **United States** caused it to head for England.

TWENTY-SEVENTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **regiment** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies** and recruited in **Ohio**. In March 1814, it was consolidated with the **Seventeenth**, **Nineteenth**, and **Twenty-sixth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** to form new **Seventeenth** and **Nineteenth Regiments**. The new **Twenty-seventh** was formed in May 1814 from the lately created **Forty-seventh U.S. Regiment of Infantry**.

Elements of the regiment were present during the following: 1813, **Put-in-Bay** (10 September) and **Moraviantown** (5 October); 1814, **Longwoods** (4 March) and **Port Dover** (14–16 May).

Among its prominent officers during the war was **Lewis Cass**.

TWENTY-SIXTH U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in January 1813 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies** and recruited in **Ohio**. In March 1814, it was consolidated with the **Seventeenth, Nineteenth, and Twenty-seventh U.S. Regiments of Infantry** to form new Seventeenth and Nineteenth Regiments. The new Twenty-sixth was formed in May 1814 from the lately created **Forty-eighth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present in such actions as the following: 1813, **Put-in-Bay** (10 September) and **McCrea's Farm** (15 December); 1814, **Longwoods** (4 March).

Among its prominent officers during the war were **Duncan McArthur, Zachary Taylor, and Thomas Van Horne**.

TWENTY-THIRD U.S. REGIMENT OF INFANTRY. This **unit** was formed in June 1812 to comprise one **battalion** of 10 **companies**. From spring 1813, it was to recruit in upper **New York** and **Vermont**.

Elements of the **regiment** were present at various actions, including the following: 1812, **Queenston Heights** (13 October) and **Smyth's failed invasion of UC** (28 November); 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackett's Harbor** (29 May), **Stoney Creek** (6 June), the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), and the **Ball property** (17 July); 1814, **Lacolle Mill** (30 March), Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Among its most active officers during the war were John Chrystie, Daniel McFarland, James R. Mullany, and Isaac Roach.

TWO MILE CREEK. With its mouth located two miles west of the **Niagara River**, this small creek flows northward into **Lake Ontario** just west of Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario (**Niagara, UC**).

TYENDINAGA. A native reserve on the north shore of the **Bay of Quinte** about 40 miles west of **Kingston**, originally populated in 1783 by members of the **Six Nations**, this area was also known as the Rice Lakes or Deseronto tract. In 1813, men from this reserve

fought at **Beaver Dams** (June 24), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), and **Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

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UC. *See* UPPER CANADA.

UNIFORMED MILITIA. *See* MILITIA FORCES.

UNIT. *See* BATTALION; REGIMENT.

UNITED STATES. In 1812, the 18 states were **Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts** (including **Maine**), **New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Vermont,** and **Virginia**. The six territories were **Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri,** and the **Northwest**. The nation's population was about 7.7 million. **Washington** in the **District of Columbia** was the capital city, and the president was **James Madison**.

UNITED STATES (USN). Commanded by Commodore **Stephen Decatur**, the *United States* captured HMS *Macedonian*, Captain **John Carden**, 500 miles west of the Canary Islands on 25 October 1812. Subsequently, British warships kept the *United States* **blockaded** at New London, **Connecticut**, through the rest of the war. It was broken up at **Norfolk, Virginia**, in 1865.

Type: 44-gun **frigate**. Launch: 1797, Philadelphia. Actual armament: (1812) 32 24-pdr lg, 24 42-pdr crde. Dimensions: 175' bp × 43' 6" × 23' dr, 1,576 tons. Crew: 480.

U.S. ARMY. The U.S. Army derived from forces raised during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) and was “adapted” to the U.S. Constitution by the First Congress in September 1789. Over the next two decades, it underwent numerous revisions so that in 1811 it consisted of about 5,500 officers and men (about 4,500 short of its legal limit), serving for five-year enlistments, divided

among seven **regiments** of **infantry** and one each of **artillery**, **light artillery**, **light dragoons** and **rifles**, and a small corps of **engineers**. This was known as the “Peace Establishment.”

During its first session, the 12th **U.S. Congress** passed legislation calling for the Peace Establishment to be filled up to its limit and created six **companies** of **rangers** in December 1811 and an “Additional Military Force” in January 1812. The latter was to have 25,000 officers and men, serving for 18-month enlistments, and, after a modification the following June, be divided among 25 new regiments of infantry, two of artillery, and one of light dragoons. In January 1813, 19 new regiments of infantry and 10 companies of **rangers** were created, the recruits to serve for only 12 months. Legislation of the 13th Congress added three rifle regiments and two infantry regiments, consolidated some infantry regiments and the regiments of artillery and light dragoons, and changed some enlistment times to an optional five years.

In every case, enlistments failed to meet expectations. Although no dependable contemporary record exists, it is estimated that there were about 13,800 recruits in 1812, 22,200 in 1813, and 24,900 in 1814 for a total of about 61,000. Only about 15 percent of the 12- and 18-month men reenlisted; this, combined with desertions, death, and illness, further reduced the numbers.

Administered by the undermanned Department of War, headed by Secretary of War **William Eustis**, the U.S. Army was barely capable of meeting the demands placed on it in 1812. Recruitment, training, outfitting, and maintenance were fraught with significant problems. Furthermore, the senior leadership was weak, depending on old war-horses such as Brigadier General **William Hull** and Major Generals **Henry Dearborn** and **James Wilkinson**. Eustis was replaced in January 1813 by **John Armstrong**, who made some improvements in the organization of the department, but his obtuse instructions and meddling caused many problems in the field, and he was finally replaced by **James Monroe** after the **burning of Washington** (24–25 August 1814).

The U.S. Army came out of the war stronger than it had been in 1812. The war years allowed younger officers, such as **Jacob Brown**, **Winfield Scott**, and **John Wool**, to rise through the ranks and show

their worth. These men and others led the next steps in the evolution of the U.S. Army.

U.S. CONGRESS. The 12th and 13th Congresses sat during the war, both with large majorities for the **Republican Party**. The fact that the total vote on the **War Bill** in June 1812 was 98 to 62 (with some legislators not voting) indicates that decisions were not based along pure party lines, and during these sessions, although there was considerable Republican unity, much of the legislation (more than 30 percent of which dealt directly with matters pertaining to the war) was hotly contested.

During the 12th Congress, the Republicans had 108 members in the House of Representatives and 30 in the Senate, while there were 36 **Federalists** in the House and six in the Senate. They sat in two sessions, the first of which (November 1811–July 1812) was the longest session of the war period; the second session lasted from November 1812 to March 1813. In answer to President **James Madison**'s message in November 1811, Congress put through a series of acts to improve the military standing of the nation but ended up with some impractical conditions, such as the unrealistic expectations for enlistments in the **U.S. Army** and the **12-month volunteer** corps. Financing of the war provoked considerable disagreement, since simple taxation was so unpopular and eventually forced the administration to raise funds through a number of channels, including obtaining loans from private financiers, most of which barely covered the fiscal needs. By the end of the first session, supplementary legislation had been passed to make previous acts more realistic. The second session saw further refinements and an increase in the military and naval forces, their organization, and their support. The administration faced sharp opposition to some of its decisions and preferences, even to the seemingly simple matter of appointing **Albert Gallatin** and **Jonathan Russell** as peace commissioners.

In the newly expanded 13th Congress, the House of Representatives had 112 Republicans and 68 Federalists, while the Senate breakdown was 30 and 8. They sat in three sessions: May 1813 to August 1813, December 1813 to April 1814, and September 1814 to March 1815. The business resembled that of the previous Congress with increases in military and naval strength, improvements in bounties and

pay to promote enlistment, as well as rancorous debate over trade limitations, state militia, and finances. The administration faced opposition on a number of fronts. During the final session, Congress decided not to yield to the depressing sight of the vulnerable government buildings and president's mansion in ruins and passed an act to repair and rebuild the public buildings in Washington in February 1815, just about the time news arrived of the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814).

U.S. MARINE CORPS. The Marine Corps was created in 1798 for service on the warships and stations of the **USN**. Originally, it was to number 33 officers and 848 men. In 1814, this authorized number had increased to about 2,700, but the number actually serving was considerably below this.

Apart from the numerous naval engagements, such as the *USS Constitution vs. HMS Guerrière* (19 August 1812), elements of the corps participated in such actions as the following: 1813, **Fort George** (27 May), **Sackets Harbor** (29 May), the **assault on HMS Junon** (20 June), the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June), and **Put-in-Bay** (10 September); 1814, **Port Dover** (14–16 May), the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek, Maryland** (8–26 June), the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September), and the **reconnaissance in force at New Orleans** (28 December); 1815, the **artillery duel at New Orleans** (1 January) and the **final assault at New Orleans** (8 January).

Among the most active officers during the war were John Brooks, Alexander Sevier, and Franklin Wharton.

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY. Congress created this institution in 1802 for the education of military officers. There were 10 cadets intended to become engineers and 40 for the military. It was located at West Point, **New York**, 40 miles up the Hudson River from **New York City**. By 1815 it had produced 120 graduates who were **commissioned** as officers in the **U.S. Army**, of whom 97 served during the war. Notable among these men was **Eleazar Wood**.

U.S. NAVY. The **USN** can trace its foundation to legislation passed by Congress in 1794 for the building of six **frigates**. Their construction

and the enlistment of crews to man them fell under the auspices of the Department of War until the spring of 1798, when the Department of the Navy was created. The navy expanded quickly to meet the conditions of the **Quasi-War with France** (1798–1800). From 1801, the navy underwent a reduction, and between then and the War of 1812, few vessels were built except for more than 150 gunboats for harbor and coastal defense.

In 1812, the U.S. Navy had only 14 warships ready for sea and about 5,200 seamen and up to 500 **U.S. Marines**, more than half of whom served at shore stations. The Department of the Navy administered it from a small office in Washington. **Paul Hamilton** was the secretary of the navy, with a chief clerk and six or seven assistant clerks beneath him. The accountant of the navy was second to the secretary in importance and had a staff of up to 14. The secretary was a member of the president's cabinet and worked in conjunction with the other members to bring government policy and directives to effect.

To improve the navy's footing, **William Jones** replaced Hamilton early in 1813, and the navy was increased with new constructions (in addition to **squadrons** on the northern lakes) of numerous **gunboats**, six **sloops**, three large **frigates**, and three **ships of the line**; because of British **blockades**, few of these actually saw active service. By February 1815, it was estimated that there were about 15,000 officers and seamen and about 2,000 **marines** in service.

U.S. REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY. *See* FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF ARTILLERY.

U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES. *See* FIRST U.S. REGIMENT OF RIFLES.

UNITED STATES VS. MACEDONIAN, NAVAL BATTLE OF (25 October 1812). While steering a northwesterly course about 500 miles west of the Canary Islands on 25 October 1812, Captain **John Carden**, HMS *Macedonian*, sighted a large **frigate** to the east shortly after daylight. This was the USS *United States*, Commodore **Stephen Decatur**, making an independent cruise. Carden altered his course to intercept the American frigate. He had the **wind gauge**, and

his **ship** was barely two years old, fast, and maneuverable. The *United States*'s main battery of 24-pdr **long guns** gave it an advantage in range and impact over the *Macedonian*'s 18-pdrs. Instead of closing on the American and then out maneuvering him, Carden chose to open the contest at long range around 9:00 A.M., during which the guns of the *United States* caused damage and casualties. When the range fell to about 50 yards, Decatur outmaneuvered Carden, using the full strength of his **broadside**. The British mizen mast crashed overboard, and the other topmasts collapsed while a number of guns were overturned. Decatur withdrew to make minor repairs, and when he returned, the British surrendered, about two hours after the commencement of the action.

British casualties were 36 dead and 68 wounded, while the Americans suffered only seven killed and five wounded. Decatur highly praised the conduct of his first lieutenant, **William Allen**. Carden extolled the exertions of Lieutenant **David Hope**, who was wounded but returned to the deck. Although the *Macedonian* had been virtually dismasted, Decatur repaired it and sent Allen home in their **prize**.

UPPER CANADA. Created by an act of the British Parliament in 1791, this colony, or province, was about equal in size to modern-day southern Ontario. Its population in 1812 was about 77,000 (which rose to 95,000 by 1814), and its capital was at **York**. During the war years, the military officers acting as **lieutenant governors** were the following: Major General **Isaac Brock** (1812), Major General **Sir Roger Hale Sheaffe** (1812–1813), Major General **Francis De Rottenburg** (1813), and Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** (1813–1815).

UPPER CANADA MILITIA. The **sedentary militia** in UC averaged about 12,000 in number during the war. The Militia Act of 6 March 1812 required each **regiment** of each county to form **flank companies** of volunteers, under the age of 40, to be more frequently trained and to be embodied for between six and eight months. Counties also formed additional volunteer companies of **artillery**, **dragoons**, and **rifles**.

While a large part of the militia near the **Detroit River** and others



*The USS United States versus HMS Macedonian, 25 October 1812.
Courtesy of the Library and Archives of Canada, C4847*

were hesitant to take up arms when Brigadier General **William Hull's Army of the Northwest** invaded in July 1812, Major General **Isaac Brock** had militia forces under his command when he captured **Detroit** (16 August 1812). Some of these and others fought well at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October). By the end of 1812, most militiamen had returned home.

The Militia Act was revised in March 1813 to develop a more dependable force. This resulted in the creation of the **Battalion of Incorporated Militia**, two **troops** of the **Provincial Light Dragoons**, and the Provincial Artillery Company. Just before the passage of the act, Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe** created several "**Provincial Corps**," including the **Provincial Royal Artillery Drivers** (which operated with elements of the **Corps of Royal Artillery Drivers**) and the **Corps of Artificers (Colored Corps)**. Enlistments in the Incorporated Militia did not meet expectations. Hundreds of men in the sedentary militia gave themselves up for **parole** after the American victories at **York** (27 April 1813) and **Fort George** (27 May), al-

though throughout the province small companies of sedentary militia served loyally in 1813 and 1814.

Elements of the Incorporated Militia were involved in various actions, including the following: 1813, the **blockade of Fort George** (July–October), **Chrysler’s Farm** (11 November), the **burning of Niagara** (10–11 December), and the **raid on Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Lundy’s Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), and the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August).

There were also several companies of “militia volunteers” active in 1813 and 1814. They were formed in the western districts of the province, where the Incorporated Militia was not organized, and included the Western Rangers, the Loyal Kent Volunteers (or Kent Rangers), the Loyal Essex Volunteers (or Essex Rangers), and the Loyal London Volunteers.

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VAN HORNE, THOMAS B. (1782–1841). A settler in **Ohio**, Van Horne became a **major** in the Second **Ohio Regiment of Militia Infantry** during Brigadier General **William Hull’s campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). Native warriors and British **regulars** ambushed 200 men under his command at Brownstown, Michigan, as they carried Hull’s dispatches to **Frenchtown, Michigan**, on 5 August. Van Horne’s men suffered heavy losses and returned to **Detroit**, where, on 16 August, Hull surrendered his army. Van Horne was **exchanged** and given a **commission** as **lieutenant colonel** of the **Twenty-sixth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in April 1813. He transferred with that rank to the **Nineteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in May 1814. He does not appear to have seen further action in the war.

VAN RENSSELAER, SOLOMON (1774–1852). Van Rensselaer joined the **U.S. Army** in 1792 and fought in Major General Anthony Wayne’s campaign against the aboriginal nations in the **Old Northwest**. He left the army in 1800, became the **adjutant general** of the **New York Militia** the next year, and was a pugnacious supporter of

Federalist policies. His second cousin, Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer**, asked him to be an **aide-de-camp** with the rank of **lieutenant colonel** when he accepted command of the army on the **Niagara Frontier** in July 1812. Solomon was instrumental in organizing the army and advising the general, and he led the first wave of attackers sent to capture **Queenston** on 13 October 1812. In the first sharp exchange with the British, he was incapacitated by five wounds and evacuated from the battlefield. He thereafter sought a **commission** in the **regular army** but was unsuccessful and remained an inactive militiaman.

VAN RENSSELAER, STEPHEN (1764–1839). Van Rensselaer was a member of a wealthy Dutch family with a long history in **New York**. He owned a prosperous estate spanning the Hudson River near **Albany** and was active in state politics as a **Federalist**, with terms as a legislator and **lieutenant governor**.

In 1812, he was intending to run for the governorship of New York when the incumbent, Daniel Tompkins, selected him to command the army sent to defend the **Niagara Frontier** and to divert British defenses. Tompkins's reasons may have been self-serving, but Van Rensselaer was the senior **militia** officer in the state, and his choice was approved by Secretary of War **William Eustis**. Van Rensselaer had no practical military experience and relied on his second cousin Lieutenant Colonel **Solomon Van Rensselaer** to organize his largely militia force. When Major General **Isaac Brock** accomplished the **capture of Detroit** (16 August), Major General **Henry Dearborn** reinforced Van Rensselaer with **regular units** and urged him to attack across the Niagara.

Van Rensselaer was unable to get Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth** to cooperate in a plan to capture **Fort George**, so he opted to seize the village of **Queenston**. This resulted in the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October), an overwhelming British victory that revealed Van Rensselaer's poor tactical and logistical planning and his unwillingness to stand with his troops on the battlefield. He resigned his command shortly thereafter and ended his active military service. Still popular among the electorate, he narrowly lost the gubernatorial election to Tompkins in the spring of 1813.

VAN RENSSELAER'S ARMY ON THE NIAGARA, 1812. This force began collecting along the **Niagara River** late in June 1812 under the command of Brigadier General **William Wadsworth**. Governor Daniel Tompkins gave the command to Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** on 13 July 1812. He reached the frontier on 10 August and established his headquarters near **Lewiston, New York**.

By October 1812, Van Rensselaer's army numbered about 6,700 officers and men. The **regulars** (about 2,500 in all) included elements of the **Fourth, Sixth, Thirteenth, and Twenty-third U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, which were involved in the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812), along with the **First, Second, and Third U.S. Artillery Regiments** and the **Regiment of Light Artillery**. The **Fifth, Twelfth, and Fourteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry** and part of the Thirteenth were present on the upper Niagara River near **Black Rock, New York**, commanded by Brigadier General **Alexander Smyth**.

The **militia** totaled about 4,100 officers and men. It consisted of five **regiments** detached from the **New York Militia**. In addition, there were dozens of militia **companies** of **infantry, rifles, artillery, and dragoons** who were activated or who volunteered for service, some of them as **12-month volunteers**. Governor **Simon Snyder** of **Pennsylvania** detached 2,400 militia for service on the **Niagara Frontier** late in August, and by October three companies had reached Smyth's camp.

The size of the force available for immediate service during the **battle of Queenston Heights** on 13 October 1812 was about 4,600, of whom about 1,500 actually crossed into Canada.

VENT. This was the "touch hole" at the base of the barrel of a piece of **artillery** or small arms, such as a **musket** or **pistol**.

VERGENNES, VERMONT. Vergennes stands on the banks of **Otter Creek** six miles from its mouth at **Lake Champlain**. Formally incorporated as a city in 1788 (and, therefore, the third-oldest city in the **United States**), it was a small but active mill town in 1812 with facilities for the manufacture of iron.

VERMONT. Vermont became a state in 1791 with its capital at **Montpelier**. In 1810, its population was about 218,000. In June 1812, the

state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—three for, one against; U.S. Senate—one for, 0 against. During the war years, its governors were Jonas Galusha (**Republican**, 1800–1813) and Martin Chittenden (**Federalist**, 1813–1815).

VERMONT MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1809, there were 20,000 officers and men in the **standing militia**. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 **militiamen** in May 1812, Vermont's quota was 3,000. To meet this quota, Governor Jonas Galusha formed detached **units** and sent 300 to men to **Burlington, Vermont**, and 400 to Swanton near the Canadian border in July and August 1812. In November, the legislature ordered the detachment of several **regiments** of **infantry** and two each of **cavalry** and **artillery** for service as needed. Some of these men were part of Major General **Henry Dearborn**'s failed invasion of **LC** in November.

In 1813, about 300 men of the Third Brigade were stationed between **Plattsburgh** and the Canadian border, and when Governor Martin Chittenden ordered them back to the state, a portion refused to leave. In 1814, Chittenden reluctantly called out detachments of militia to defend **Burlington** and Master Commandant **Thomas Macdonough's squadron** at **Vergennes**, which was present during the **skirmish at Otter Creek** (14 May). Without Chittenden's full approval, as many as 2,500 militia, commanded by Brigadier General Samuel Strong, crossed to Plattsburgh to join the force there under Brigadier General **Alexander Macomb** during the **battle of Plattsburgh** on 11 September 1814.

VICE ADMIRAL. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

VILLERÉ'S PLANTATION, BATTLE AT (23 December 1814).

This was the first of four major engagements below **New Orleans** between American forces under Major General **Andrew Jackson** and the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane's Gulf coast campaign** (May 1814–February 1815).

While the movements of British troops from the **fleet** off Ship Island to the staging area at Pea Island was under way, Cochrane sent a scouting party to find an accessible route to New Orleans. This was

accomplished on 18 December, when **RN** personnel discovered the open Bayou Bienvenue on the western shore of **Lake Borgne** and went overland to the plantation of Major General Jacques Villeré, commander of the **Louisiana Militia**, which lay on the bank of the Mississippi River, about seven miles below New Orleans.

Having captured most of the guard at the mouth of the bayou late on 22 December, the British moved up the waterway and its tributaries and then by foot to the plantation, which they seized without opposition by noon on 23 December; Major Gabriel Villeré escaped captivity and reported the incident to Jackson. Jackson was incensed that Major Villeré had not blocked access through Bayou Bienvenue as he had personally ordered Villeré to and immediately suspended him from duty.

Cochrane was with the advance force as were Rear Admiral Pulteney Malcolm and Major General **John Keane**. By evening, they had established a camp and **pickets** at and around the Villeré plantation, their force consisting of over 2,000 men from the **1/4th, 1/85th, and 3/95th Regiments of Foot**; a detachment of **Royal Sappers and Miners**; and **Royal Engineers** and **RN** personnel. The rest of Keane's army was in transit to the plantation.

Jackson had word of the British arrival by noon and a reconnaissance report by 2:00 P.M. but still believed it was a diversion covering the main attack elsewhere. By evening, Jackson decided this was not a feint and hurriedly assembled a force of about 2,600 men for an attack. The U.S. Schooner ***Carolina***, commanded by Master Commandant **John Henley** (with his superior, Master Commandant **Daniel Patterson**, on board) and manned mainly by **Baratarians**, would attack the British left flank. Then battalions of **Louisiana Militia rifles** and **Mississippi Militia dragoons** (dismounted) and a **regiment of Tennessee Militia** rifles under Brigadier General John Coffee, about 600 men in all, would attack the British right flank. Jackson would attack the British center with the **Seventh and Forty-fourth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**, two **field guns** of the **Corps of Artillery**, a **company** of **U.S. Marines**, two **battalions** of **Louisiana Militia** (a uniformed battalion and one of **Free Men of Color**), and a handful of **Choctaw** warriors.

Skirmishing occurred late in the afternoon as Jackson's advance came into contact with Keane's pickets and then withdrew. Keane

sent elements of the 3/95th and 1/85th to form picket lines nearly a mile west of Villeré's for the night.

The main attack was launched around 7:30 P.M. as the *Carolina* silently sailed downriver and anchored adjacent to the British camp. British sentries, believing it to be a friendly supply vessel, hailed the *Carolina* and were suddenly answered with a **broadside** from the six 12-pdr **carronades** and one 12-pdr **long gun**. This incurred instant casualties and chaos in the British camp and was made worse when Jackson launched his attack, pushing in the British pickets. The surprise attack left Keane struggling, apparently, to gain command, but Colonel William Thornton (85th) sent the main bodies of the 85th and 95th forward to support the pickets while holding the 44th in reserve. This resulted in charge and countercharge, hand-to-hand combat, and the near capture of the American guns. Meanwhile, Coffee's men were slow in reaching their position and then separated into small groups in the darkness. Coffee kept a portion of his force together and wheeled toward the river to press the British right flank; the *Carolina* ceased fire to avoid hitting Americans. Some of Coffee's men ventured well onto the Villeré property and briefly captured several dozen British and then were surprised by a roaring charge from four companies of the **1/21st Regiment of Foot** (about 400 men), which had just arrived from Lake Borgne.

After about two hours of heavy fighting, Jackson began to pull his force back as the darkness, smoke, and a heavy fog made control of it nearly impossible. Skirmishing continued until 3:00 in the morning. On the opposite bank of the river, 350 Louisiana Militia under Brigadier General David Morgan were awaiting orders from Jackson, and Morgan did nothing to support the army until his men threatened to go anyway. Morgan marched them down the river after the main fighting had ended, and they fired across the river at Keane's small rear guard with little effect.

The battle decided nothing, although the British suffered worse for it. Jackson claimed 24 killed, 115 wounded, and 74 missing, while Keane reported 46 dead, 167 wounded, and 64 missing. Significantly, these casualties further weakened the British force, which had already suffered losses through illness and accident due to the deplorable conditions endured since leaving the fleet.

VINCENT, JOHN (?–1848). The record shows that Vincent joined the **British army** as an **ensign** in 1781 and was promoted to **captain** in the **49th Regiment of Foot** in 1783, when he eventually became a compatriot of a young **Isaac Brock**, who soon bypassed him in rank. When the **regiment** went to Canada in 1802, Vincent was a **lieutenant colonel**.

He commanded **regulars** and **militia** during **Commodore Isaac Chauncey's squadron's action at Kingston** in November 1812. Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** praised Vincent for his efforts and advanced him to **brigadier general** in February 1813 and sent him to command on the **Niagara Peninsula**. He commanded the British force during the **battle of Fort George** on 27 May 1813 and retreated with most of his troops to **Burlington Heights**. His promotion to **major general** took effect on 4 June. Vincent missed the main action in the **battle of Stoney Creek** on 6 June because, while riding toward the scene without an escort, he was thrown from his horse and lost his way. Through the rest of the summer, he gradually tightened the **blockade of Fort George**. After the **battle of Morviantown** (5 October 1813), he withdrew his force to Burlington Heights.

In June 1814, Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** sent Vincent to command at **Kingston**, from which post he was sent home for health reasons in July. He ended his career as a full **general**.

VIPER (USN). Rerigged as a **brig** and named the *Viper* in 1809–1810, this vessel was stationed at **New Orleans** under the command of Lieutenant **John Henley** when it was chased and captured in the waters between **Florida** and New Orleans by HMS *Narcissus*, Captain **John Lumley** (17 January 1813). The brig was purchased into the **RN** and renamed the *Mohawk* but then sold in 1814.

Type: 12-gun brig. Launch: 1806, **Norfolk, Virginia**, as the cutter *Ferret*. Standard armament: two 6-pdr lg, 12 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 73' ud × 23' 8" × 7' 8" dh, 148 tons. Crew: 64.

VIRGINIA. Virginia was one of the original 13 states with its capital at Richmond. In 1810, its population was about 878,000. In June 1812, the state's voting record on the **War Bill** was U.S. House of Representatives—14 for, five against; U.S. Senate—two for, 0 against. During the war years, its governors were Peyton Randolph

(**Republican**, 1811–1812), James Barbour (**Republican**, 1812–1814), and Wilson Nicholas (**Republican**, 1814–1816).

VIRGINIA MILITIA. According to the return taken in 1811, there were 79,000 officers and men on the rolls of the **Virginia Militia**. The state was divided into four **divisions** containing 21 **brigades** and 124 **regiments**, most of which were raised on a county basis. When Secretary of War **William Eustis** issued his order for the detachment of 100,000 militiamen in May 1812, Virginia's quota was 12,000.

The state responded eagerly to the call up. In September 1812, Eustis asked Governor James Barbour to send 1,500 men to join the **Army of the Northwest** under Brigadier General **William Harrison**. Barbour detached a brigade of two regiments of volunteers under Brigadier General Joel Leftwich that eventually joined Harrison on the lower **Maumee River** in January 1813. They helped construct **Fort Meigs**, but as their six-month enlistment period was coming due, they returned home before any fighting with the British occurred. The **Petersburg Volunteers**, a body of Virginians, did remain through the summer and fall.

Barbour detached forces to protect **Norfolk**, where he put Brigadier General Robert B. Taylor in command. Taylor's men saw action during Admiral **Sir John Warren's Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813) and were involved in the **assault on HMS Junon** (20 June), the **assault on Craney Island** (22 June), and the **capture and occupation of Hampton** (25–26 June 1813).

In the federal government's call for militia mobilization in July 1814, the state's quota was again 12,000. In 1814, a detachment was involved in the **skirmish at Pungoteague Creek** (31 May), while one regiment took the field in the final stage of the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August), and parts of two brigades were present during the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September).

Among its prominent officers during the war were Henry Beatty, Stapleton Crutchfield, Joel Leftwich, and Robert B. Taylor.

VIXEN (1803) (USN). Converted to a **brig** in 1804, the *Vixen* was commanded by Lieutenant **George W. Reed** when it was captured off Sunbury, **Georgia**, on 22 November by HMS *Southampton*,

Captain **Sir James Yeo**. Both vessels sank after running onto a shoal near Concepción Island in the Bahamas five days later.

Type: 12-gun brig. Launch: 1803, **Baltimore**, as a **schooner**. Standard armament: two 9-pdr lg, 12 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 83' 6" ud × 23' 7" × 9' 6" dh, 185 tons. Crew: 111.

VIXEN (1813) (USN). This vessel was purchased into the **USN 1813**, renamed first the **General Horsford** and then the *Vixen*. Though **commissioned** to Lieutenant **George C. Read**, it was under the command of Sailing Master **Thomas Hall** and sailing to New Castle, **Delaware**, when it was captured by HMS *Belvidera*, Captain **Richard Byron**, on 25 December. Evidence is lacking about the fate of the *Vixen*.

Type: 14-gun **schooner**. Launch, 1813, Philadelphia, as the **privateer Snapper**. Intended armament: one 18-pdr lg, 16 18-pdr crde. Dimensions: 200 tons. Crew: 111.

VOLUNTEER, FORT. Located at the eastern edge of **Sackets Harbor, New York**, this **fort** overlooked the mouth of the naval basin. In the spring of 1813, it consisted of a **blockhouse** and **barracks** and a single **bastion** within earthen **ramparts** forming a square. By late 1814, the fort had been extended and strengthened.

VOLUNTEER MILITARY CORPS ACT. Passed into law on 6 February 1812 by the **U.S. Congress**, this act was intended to provide a large force (up to 50,000) that would be under the control of the federal government for a term of one year; herein they are identified as **12-month volunteers**. The men would clothe themselves but be armed, housed, trained, and paid as men of the **U.S. Army** were. The advantages of this force were that it was temporary and therefore cheaper to operate than the **regular** army. It also avoided the issue of state autonomy over **militia** forces and therefore made the use of volunteers more flexible. Originally, the states had power to appoint officers, but when this proved unsuitable, Congress gave this power to the president.

Enlistments fell far short of expectations, and certification of the **regiments** and **companies** that came forward was greatly delayed so that an exact count of the strength of the force was never made. The

act was repealed on 29 January 1813 by another law that revised the organization of the U.S. Army.

Although many sources mention “volunteer” militia in 1812, few of these served under the law. One **unit** that did was the **Petersburg Volunteers** from **Virginia**, which operated with the **Army of the Northwest** under Major General **William Harrison** in 1813.

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WABUNSEE. *See* BLACK PARTRIDGE.

WADSWORTH, WILLIAM (1761–1833). One of the original settlers in Ontario County of **New York**, Wadsworth was a long time **New York Militia** officer who had risen to the rank of **brigadier general** by 1812. He reluctantly accepted command of the army on the **Niagara Frontier** in June 1812, admitting to Governor Daniel Tompkins that he felt incompetent to handle the post. Wadsworth led the first large detachment of U.S. forces that reached the Niagara River on 3 July and remained with the growing army after Major General **Stephen Van Rensselaer** arrived to take charge in August. He crossed into Canada during the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812) and briefly commanded the American force there until allowing Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott** to take the lead. Wadsworth was captured during this American defeat and sent home on **parole** and did not fight again in the war.

WALES, RICHARD WALTER (?–?). The scant details of this **RN** officer’s career show that he passed his **lieutenancy** exam and obtained a **commission** in 1799 and was made a **commander** in 1808. He became commander of HM Sloop ***Epervier*** in January 1813 and sailed from England in March. During the summer, he captured a pair of **prizes**, and his **sloop** was badly damaged when a hurricane devastated **Halifax** in November. In February 1814, he captured an American **privateer**. On his return to Halifax, Wales reported that his crew was insufficient in numbers and rebellious in nature, but he was still sent on the cruise that ended with the **naval battle of Peacock vs. Epervier** (29 April 1814), in which Wales lost his sloop and

was wounded. A **court-martial** absolved him of blame, basing the loss on the strength of the enemy, the disloyalty of the crew, and the **carronades** having been upset because of defective fittings. Wales rose to **post captain** in 1817, but no other details of his career are in print.

WALKER, JAMES ROBERTSON (1783–1858). *See* ROBERTSON (WALKER), JAMES (1783–1858).

WAR BILL. *See* DECLARATION OF WAR, AMERICAN.

“WAR HAWKS.” The **Federalists** are credited with inventing this term to describe the group of **Republicans** in the Twelfth **U.S. Congress** who were avid war supporters and helped propel the **United States** toward war with Britain. Because of shifting patterns in the records of private correspondence, voting, and debate patterns, authorities have varying opinions as to the size of the group or whether it was a manifestation of the unity in the Republican Party at the time. Among those most frequently identified as leading War Hawks were Ezekiel Bacon, John C. Calhoun, Langdon Cheves, **Henry Clay**, and **Peter Porter**.

WARRANT. This was a certificate given to officers with specialized skills but standing lower in rank than **commissioned** officers. *See* RANKS AND APPOINTMENTS, NAVAL.

WARREN, SIR JOHN BORLASE (1753–1822). Warren was born into a wealthy family and entered the **RN** as an able seaman in 1771 and was made a **midshipman** in 1772. But he finished his education, was elected to parliament, bought an estate, and inherited his father’s **baronetcy** (and was thereafter addressed as “Sir John”) before beginning regular service afloat in 1777. He was made a **lieutenant** in 1778 and a **master and commander** the following year. He was a **post captain** by 1781, saw much action against the French in the 1790s, and was made a **KB** for his achievements. In 1799, Warren became a **rear admiral**, and by 1810 he was an **admiral** of the blue.

Early in August 1812, Warren received orders from the **Admiralty** to take over command of the **North America Station** at **Halifax**,

Nova Scotia, from Vice Admiral **Herbert Sawyer**, whose term there was ending. Warren's responsibility also extended to the "West Indies Station," which included the **Leeward Island Station** and the **Jamaica Station**, with its headquarters at **Bermuda**; he was also charged with supervising the RN detachment sent to the Great Lakes in the spring of 1813 under Commodore **Sir James Yeo**.

Warren reached **Halifax** on 20 September 1812 in HMS *San Domingo* and a week later took command. He was plagued with numerous problems. There were too few warships, especially **ships of the line** and **frigates**, to cover all the convoys and patrols that were necessary, let alone watch over the American ports or take aggressive actions. The **ships** were also weakly manned, and most were badly in need of repair. He was strapped for resources at Halifax and his second base at Bermuda. His responsibilities also included handling the **license trade** of American vessels and such diplomatic arrangements as prisoner **exchanges** and potential peace proposals. Warren alerted the Admiralty to his difficulties soon after he began his term.

The British government announced a blockade of **Chesapeake Bay** and the **Delaware River** on 27 November, but it was not until February 1813 that Warren was able to situate a **squadron** in those waters. He had petitioned the Admiralty from the beginning of his term for more ships and men, resulting in Rear Admiral **George Cockburn** being sent to join him with warships as well as military reinforcements. With these, he undertook his **Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September 1813). Cockburn reaped most of the glory during the summer for his exploits, while Warren dealt with administration of the **fleet** in the bay and his other duties. The Admiralty criticized Warren for not enacting the blockade effectively enough and for not having a more coherent and effective plan of action in the Chesapeake.

The Admiralty replaced Warren with Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** in November 1813. Cochrane arrived at Bermuda on 6 March 1814, but Warren did not transfer command until 1 April, when he departed for England.

Warren rose to admiral of the red in 1814 and remained in the service until his death at Nottingham, England.

WARREN'S CHESAPEAKE BAY CAMPAIGN (March–September 1813). Although the British **blockade** of **Chesapeake Bay** was announced on 27 November 1812, it was not until 4 February 1813 that a **squadron** under Admiral **Sir John Warren** arrived there. Leaving some of his vessels on blockade, Warren sailed to **Bermuda** to confer with Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**.

Cockburn had reached Bermuda in January but could not go to the Chesapeake until his flagship, HMS *Marlborough*, was repaired. After receiving orders from Warren, he sailed and arrived on 3 March with three other **third-rates**, several **frigates**, and a handful of smaller vessels. The strength of the Chesapeake Bay **fleet** changed over time, as some vessels were deployed elsewhere and others arrived; in September, there was a report of 36 vessels, comprising five 74-gun **ships**, 11 **frigates**, two transports, nine **brigs**, and 10 **schooners**. The blockade being of prime importance, Cockburn stationed vessels at **Lynnhaven Bay** and in Chesapeake Bay while he made **Hampton Roads** his main anchorage. Other priorities in his instructions included the acquisition of information about enemy strengths and weaknesses; the capture or destruction of the USS *Constellation* at **Norfolk, Virginia**; the interruption of all commercial traffic in Chesapeake Bay; the delivery of **prizes** to Bermuda in convoy; an extension of the blockade to Delaware Bay and Long Island off **New York City**; and the security of all his vessels, their provisioning, and watering.

Warren arrived on 13 March, by which time Cockburn had made a thorough reconnaissance. His presence prompted the Americans to withdraw the *Constellation* farther up the Elizabeth River and to increase its defenses. Realizing that an attack on the ship was not feasible with the force he commanded, Cockburn sent armed boats up the adjacent rivers, where they took prizes with little resistance.

On 1 April, Warren and Cockburn sailed up Chesapeake Bay, and two days later the squadron's boats captured four **Rappahannock River prizes**. These were manned as **tenders** and used to capture nine **merchantmen** on 6 April in a pattern that was repeated frequently over the next four months. The fleet continued north, and Warren anchored off **Annapolis, Maryland**, while Cockburn proceeded with the *Marlborough*, the frigate *Maidstone*, the brigs *Fantom* and *Mohawk*, and three **tenders** with an additional force of 180

seamen, 200 **Royal Marines** and **Royal Marine Artillery** (and, presumably, some of the **Rocket Corps**), and some **Royal Regiment of Artillery**. For the rest of April and the first week of May, Cockburn executed a series of raids in the northern reaches of the bay, the most significant and typical being the **raids at Frenchtown** (29 April), **Havre de Grace and Principio Foundry** (3 May), and **Georgetown and Fredericktown**, Maryland (6 May). He rejoined Warren late on 7 May, and they returned to Lynnhaven Bay, after which, on 17 May, Warren sailed for **Halifax** with 40 prizes while 30 others headed for Bermuda with HMS *Dragon*, Captain **Robert Barrie**.

Depleted of men and vessels, Cockburn restricted himself to blockade and reconnaissance duties. The Americans took some offensive but ineffective actions toward the British fleet, including the unsuccessful deployment of **torpedoes** against HMS *Victorious* on 5 June and HMS *Plantagenet* on 24 July, the **assault on HMS Junon** (20 June), the operations of the **Potomac flotilla**, and a brief cruise by a flotilla of leased **privateers** under Captain **Charles Gordon** (April–May).

Warren returned, via Bermuda, on 19 June with the 1st and 2nd Battalions of **Royal Marines**, the **Independent Companies of Foreigners**, and the **102nd Regiment of Foot**, all under Colonel **Sir Sydney Beckwith**. This force saw action at the unsuccessful **assault on Craney Island** (22 June) and the **capture and occupation of Hampton, Virginia** (25–26 June).

Cockburn shifted his flag into HMS *Sceptre*, and on 2 July he sailed with three troopships for a **raid on Ocracoke Inlet, North Carolina** (12–16 July), after which he advised that the blockade should be extended to this important outlet to seaboard ports.

Cockburn rejoined Warren, who had sailed north in Chesapeake Bay to renew inshore activities again. They occupied Kent Island, 25 miles southeast of **Baltimore**, from 4 August to provide a healthier land base for the military **units** and naval personnel during the hottest part of the summer. Several raids were made in the vicinity, and the presence of the British fleet caused great concern and much mobilization of local **militias**.

On 22 August, the British began evacuating Kent Island. They went to Lynnhaven Bay, and since Warren had decided the campaign was ended, he sailed with ships and prizes for Halifax while Cock-

burn sailed for Bermuda, leaving behind Barrie in the *Dragon* to carry on the blockade with two frigates and a schooner.

The Admiralty was dissatisfied with Warren's campaign. Although Cockburn and his other officers had inflicted significant damage on shipping, commerce, and communities and alarmed the American public, the Admiralty felt that Warren should have concentrated on using his ships to blockade the eastern seaboard once he learned he could not capture the USS *Constellation*. They also believed that he did not make adequate use of the military reinforcements sent to him.

WARRINGTON, LEWIS (1782–1851). Warrington was born at Williamsburg, **Virginia**, and joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800. He was advanced to **lieutenant** in 1802 and to **master commandant** in 1813 and in 1814 was **commissioned** to the new sloop *Peacock*. Eluding the British **blockade** of **New York City**, Warrington cruised south along the eastern seaboard, encountering and capturing HM sloop *Epervier*, Commander **Richard Wales**, on 29 April 1814, for which the **U.S. Congress** voted him a gold medal. During the summer, he cruised the waters around England and captured and destroyed 15 **merchantmen** before returning to **New York City** to refit. Warrington was promoted to **captain** in November 1814, and along with the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Master Commandant **James Biddle**, he eluded the British blockade on 20 January 1815 and sailed to the South Atlantic, where they had agreed to rendezvous. They met on 24 March and then parted company three days later when HMS *Cornwallis*, Captain **John Bayley**, intercepted them and took after the *Hornet*. Warrington continued with the plan to cruise in the East Indies, where he took several prizes.

On 30 June in the Strait of Sunda off Java, he met the *Nautilus*, a 16-gun **brig** belonging to the East India Company Bombay Marine, commanded by Lieutenant **Charles Boyce**. Boyce informed Warrington that the **Treaty of Ghent** (24 December 1814) had ended the war, but the Americans opened fire, severely damaging the *Nautilus* and killing six and wounding eight, including Boyce, but suffering no injury himself. The *Nautilus* carried an extremely valuable cargo of gold coin and copper, but Warrington was forced to release the brig when the British showed him printed proof of the ratification of peace.

Following the war, Warrington continued in active service afloat and ashore, advancing to **commodore** and, for a brief period in the mid-1840s, to the post of acting secretary of the navy.

WASHINGTON. Planning for the capital city of the **United States** began in 1791, followed soon after by the first constructions, but by 1812 Washington was little more than a village, situated about 105 miles up the **Potomac River** from **Chesapeake Bay**. Its population in 1810 was only 8,208, one-quarter of whom were black slaves and freemen. The president's mansion stood on Pennsylvania Boulevard, one mile from the Capitol. Government offices were nearby, and the **USN** had a dockyard on the Potomac.

WASHINGTON, BURNING OF (24–25 August 1814). On 16 August 1814, in a council of war on his flagship the *Tonnant* off the **Potomac River**, Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane** gave permission for Major General **Robert Ross** to command an expedition up the **Patuxent River** with an attack on **Washington** as a possible end goal. Rear Admiral **George Cockburn**, who had argued for this plan, was to support Ross, while two strong diversions would be made, the first in the Potomac River by a naval **squadron** under Captain **James Gordon** and the second off **Baltimore** by vessels under Captain Sir Peter Parker.

The main force entered the Patuxent River early on 18 August, the first elements reaching Benedict, **Maryland**, 22 miles upriver, early on 19 August. Here the land force disembarked while the larger vessels remained under Cochrane and other senior officers. Late on 20 August, Ross led the **1/4th**, **1/21st**, and **1/85th Regiments of Foot** and detachments of the **Royal Regiment of Artillery** and the **Royal Sappers and Miners** up a road that paralleled the river, where Cockburn kept pace in an armada of small boats and vessels with the **1/44th Regiment of Foot**, the new 2nd Battalion of **Royal Marines**, the new 3rd Battalion of Royal Marines (now including three **companies** of the **Corps of Colonial Marines**), **Royal Marine Artillery** (and presumably men of the **Rocket Corps**), seamen, and some ship-board **marines**. The force totaled about 4,500 men.

Ross's expedition met no opposition as it advanced to Nottingham (about 75 miles upriver) on 22 August. Just above this village lay

Captain **Joshua Barney's flotilla**; it had eventually retreated here since the **skirmishes at St. Leonard's Creek** (8–26 June). While Ross headed across country, Cockburn landed part of his force to attack Barney but was surprised when the Americans burned and blew up all but one vessel of the flotilla, offering no resistance. Ross reached Upper Marlborough (about five miles from the Patuxent and about 20 miles by road from Washington) on 23 August and halted, concerned about being cut off in the rear if he headed for Washington. In a council of war, Cockburn convinced him to press on. During this time, Cockburn received a note from Cochrane, who considered the destruction of Barney's flotilla enough of an accomplishment and advising Cockburn and Ross to return; Cockburn replied that Ross intended to pursue the end goal.

Leaving a strong guard with the boats, Ross and Cockburn marched on and the next afternoon met and beat an American army in the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August). That evening, they were in Washington, where only a few civilians remained. The Americans had set the naval yard on fire (where the new **frigate Columbia** and **sloop Argus [1813]** were destroyed), and over the next 24 hours the British burned the president's mansion, the Capitol, the buildings holding the Departments of the Treasury and War, a vast rope-manufacturing complex, and a large magazine; an accident in the latter killed 12 British, wounding 30 more. There were few instances of sniping, each of which resulted in the burning of private buildings, but Ross was adamant about the control of looting and wanton destruction. Late on 25 August, without intimating their intentions, Ross and Cockburn led their men out of Washington before the Americans could mount any sort of counterattack. Unopposed, they were embarked on the Patuxent late on 27 August, rejoining Cochrane two days later and sailing down the Patuxent to the bay.

The expedition had dramatic effects on the Americans. The public was incensed at the inability of the government to protect even their capital, and this prompted President **James Madison** to replace Secretary of War **John Armstrong** with **James Monroe** on 4 September.

It was considered by the British a brilliant accomplishment and one sure to make the Americans come to terms in peace negotiations. There is evidence, however, that Cochrane did not appreciate the way

Cockburn ignored his order to return after the destruction of Barney's flotilla and, to make that point, refused to send an officer of Cockburn's choice home with dispatches.

WASHINGTON, FORT, MARYLAND. Located 15 miles south of **Washington** on the **Maryland** bank of the **Potomac River**, this **fortification** was built in 1809, originally named Fort Warburton, as a defense of the capital. Its **parapet** was 10 feet thick and stood 40 feet over the river, and in August 1814 its **batteries** included over 20 guns, half of them 24-pdr **long guns** or heavier. But the **garrison** consisted of only 60 to 70 men under Captain Samuel Dyson of the **Corps of Artillery**. On 27 August 1814, when the **RN** squadron under Captain **James Gordon** approached the fort, Dyson decided he could not hold the place and, following orders from Brigadier General **William Winder**, had all the guns **spiked** and the heavily loaded **magazine** blown up. Repair work began on the fort before the year ended.

WASP (1805) (USN). Under Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, the *Wasp* captured HM Sloop *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, north of **Bermuda** on 18 October 1812; HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, appeared late in the day and took possession of both badly damaged **sloops**. The *Wasp* was purchased into the **RN** and renamed the *Loup Cervier* and then the *Peacock* (not to be confused with HM Sloop *Peacock*, which was destroyed by the U.S. Sloop *Hornet*, Captain **James Lawrence**, off Bahia, South America, on 24 February 1813). The *Wasp/Peacock* foundered off the southern U.S. coast in August 1814.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1806, **Washington, D.C.** Actual armament: (1811) two 12-pdr lg, 18 32-pdr crde. Dimensions: 106' 9" bp × 31' 5" × 14' 11" dh, 441 tons. Crew: 140.

WASP (1805) VS. *FROLIC*, NAVAL BATTLE OF (18 October 1812). Having recently suffered damage in a storm, the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1805), Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, sighted a convoy of large **merchantmen** under the protection of HM Sloop *Frolic*, Commander **Thomas Whinyates**, on 17 October, about 300 miles north of **Bermuda**. Whinyates signaled the convoy to flee before the

wind and turned to intercept the *Wasp*, over which he had a slight advantage in firepower. Around 11:30 A.M., the *Frolic* fired the first shots at a range of about 60 yards. During the next 45 minutes, both vessels crept closer until they were side by side, blasting away at each other, inflicting such damage that the *Frolic* eventually lost both its masts and most of the *Wasp*'s yards and rigging had collapsed. The *Frolic* became snarled with its bowsprit between the *Wasp*'s main and mizen rigging. Jones led a party on board the British vessel, forcing Whinyates, who had been wounded, to surrender.

Jones reported the American casualties to be five dead and five wounded, but the slaughter on the British decks was 17 killed and 45 wounded. Jones sent Lieutenant **James Biddle** to command the **prize**, and both vessels were in the midst of making repairs when HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, appeared, capturing the *Wasp* without resistance and retaking the *Frolic*. Beresford sailed to **Bermuda**, from where most of the American crew were returned to **New York City**, about a dozen of them being retained on grounds of being British subjects.

WASP (1813) (USN). Named in honor of the recently captured *Wasp* (1806), this vessel was commanded by Captain **Johnston Blakeley** on the only cruise it made, capturing and destroying HM Sloop *Reindeer*, Commander **William Manners**, in the English Channel on 28 June 1814 and HM Sloop *Avon*, Commander **James Arbuthnot**, south of Ireland on 1 September. The *Wasp* disappeared with all hands in the North Atlantic in October 1814.

Type: 18-gun **ship-sloop**. Launch: 1813, Boston. Actual armament: (1814) two 12-pdr lg, 20 32-pdr crde, plus (September) one 12-pdr crde. Dimensions: 117' 11" bp × 31' 6" × 14' 6" dh, 509 tons. Crew: 140.

WASP (1813) VS. AVON, NAVAL BATTLE OF (1 September 1814).

After a brief stay at L'Orient, France, in July and August 1814 to repair and resupply the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813), Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley** sailed to continue his commerce raiding in the waters off Britain. Blakeley captured a number of **merchantmen** and on 31 August spotted four vessels, three of which were **RN sloops** in pursuit of an American **privateer**. Blakeley made chase

and after dark caught up with HM Sloop *Avon*, Commander **James Arbuthnot**. It had become separated from the other two warships, and signals to recall them failed. The *Avon* was more heavily armed than the *Reindeer* had been; Blakeley had added *Reindeer*'s 12-pdr **carronade** (crde) to the *Wasp*'s arsenal.

The British opened the fighting in the dark after 9:00 P.M., but Blakeley quickly closed the range and hammered away at his opponent with the same deadly effects to which he had subjected the *Reindeer*. The main mast of the *Avon* fell overboard, shot had holed the hull, a number of its 32-pdr crdes were upended (as in other similar British **brig-sloops**), and 10 of the crew were killed and 32 wounded, one of them Commander Arbuthnot, who surrendered his command after nearly an hour of fighting. British gunnery was so poor that the *Wasp* was barely damaged, and only two men were killed and one wounded. When the *Avon*'s consorts (the **ship-sloop** *Tartarus* and brig-sloop *Castilian*) arrived, having heard the firing, Blakeley decided to leave his **prize** and escape, which he did, the lead British pursuit **ship** turning back to assist the *Avon*, which sank a few hours later.

WASP (1813) VS. REINDEER, NAVAL BATTLE OF (28 June 1814). After leaving Portsmouth, **Virginia**, for a cruise to raid the waters around Britain, the U.S. Sloop *Wasp* (1813), Master Commandant **Johnston Blakeley**, came into view of HM Sloop *Reindeer*, Commander **William Manners**, on 28 June 1814 in the mouth of the English Channel. The two vessels took most of the day to close on one another because of light winds and the captains' efforts to gain the **wind gauge**. The *Reindeer* opened fire around 3:30 P.M. at a range of about 60 yards off the *Wasp*'s stern. Blakeley turned to fight his opponent **broadside** to broadside and, laying his vessel against the *Reindeer*, used his superior firepower to cripple the British.

This fighting lasted less than 20 minutes and resulted in 23 British dead and 42 wounded (more than half the crew) and 11 Americans killed and 15 wounded (about 15 percent of the crew). Manners was wounded several times and then killed by a **musket ball** as he called on his men to board the *Wasp*. Blakeley decided that the British vessel was so badly damaged that it was not worth preserving and or-

dered it burned the next day. He then put in to L'Orient, France, to repair and refit his vessel.

WATTENWYL, ABRAHAM LUDWIG KARL VON. *See* WATTEVILLE, LOUIS DE (1776–1836).

WATTEVILLE, LOUIS DE (1776–1836). Although Swiss by birth and identified as Karl Ludwig von Wattenwyl on his death certificate, Louis de Watteville preferred the French form of his name. His father was a military officer, and in 1793 Louis was in a Swiss **regiment** in battle against the French. In 1801, the British formed a regiment out of some Swiss corps for service in the Mediterranean, named it after Watteville's uncle, and made Louis a **lieutenant colonel** in it. By 1812, having seen regular action against the French and their allies, he was the regiment's **colonel**. In March 1813, **De Watteville's Regiment** was ordered to Canada.

Governor in Chief **Sir George Prevost** welcomed the experienced **unit** and made Watteville commandant at **Kingston** and, after his promotion in June to **major general**, gave him command of the **Montreal** district. In this capacity, he directed activities on the **LC** frontier, where Lieutenant Colonel **Charles de Salaberry** was stationed. During the **battle on the Chateauguay** (26 October 1813), Watteville organized the disposition of the reserve force and then rode with Prevost to the scene of the fighting, arriving there after the battle ended.

Watteville remained in **LC** until posted to **UC** in August 1814. He arrived at the headquarters of Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** near **Fort Erie** in time to play a significant role in the defense of the British lines during the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

Watteville remained in Canada until 1816, when he retired from active service and went on **half pay**. He ended his days in Switzerland.

WAYNE, FORT. Named for Major General Anthony Wayne, this fort was the second American fort to be built at the confluence of the **Maumee**, **St. Joseph**, and **St. Mary Rivers** in northeastern **Indiana Territory** (the site of modern-day Fort Wayne) and was completed in 1800. It was a pentagonal **stockade** that served as a trading post.

Potawatomi and **Ottawa** warriors failed to capture it during an **investment** early in September 1812. It was rebuilt and improved following the war.

WAYNE, FORT, BRITISH EXPEDITION AGAINST (September 1812). After the British **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812) and **Detroit** (16 August), **Tecumseh** was eager to attack American forts south and west of the lakes in order to establish British/aboriginal control of the region. He advised his native allies to be ready to work in concert with the British, but the **Prevost–Dearborn Armistice** (August–September) prohibited Colonel **Henry Procter** (who had the approval of Major General **Isaac Brock**) from sending the **regular** army and **militia** support Tecumseh needed to capture his first objective, **Fort Wayne**.

The armistice ended on 8 September, and four days later Tecumseh, with **Roundhead** and **Matthew Elliott**, left **Fort Amherstburg** with 600 warriors, mainly **Wyandots**. Captain **Adam Muir** left there on 14 September with 150 regulars, 100 militia, and two **field guns**, and the next day 200 **Ottawa** and **Ojibwa** warriors joined the expedition. Muir's progress was slow, and by the time he had advanced up the **Maumee River** to within 40 miles of Fort Wayne, Tecumseh had learned that the chiefs **Five Medals** and **Winnemac** had attacked Fort Wayne the week before and failed to capture it and that a large army under Brigadier General **William Harrison** had arrived there, elements of which were marching north. Tecumseh and Muir agreed to terminate their expedition and returned to Fort Amherstburg. Harrison's arrival and subsequent attacks on native villages and the failure of this expedition interrupted the momentum that British forces had achieved in the **Old Northwest**.

WAYNE, FORT, INVESTMENT OF (5–12 September 1812). After the fall of **Detroit** on 16 August 1812, **Tecumseh** and fellow chiefs felt the time was ripe for regaining control of the lands south and west of Detroit. He planned attacks on **Fort Harrison** and **Fort Wayne** but advised his chiefs to wait until he brought British **regulars** and other support from **Fort Amherstburg**. **Potawatomi** chiefs **Five Medals** and **Winnemac** ignored Tecumseh's advice and began an attack on Fort Wayne with about 600 of their warriors and men of

the **Ottawa** nations on 5 September and tried for eight days to infiltrate it. The **garrison** of about 70 men from the **First U.S. Regiment of Infantry** under Captain **James Rhea**, with local settlers, resisted the attack successfully, although Rhea was relieved of command by his subordinate officer Lieutenant **Philip Ostrander** because of his drunken incompetence. News that Brigadier General **William Harrison** was about to arrive with a large reinforcement prompted the natives to call off their **investment**. Harrison reached the post with about 2,000 men on 12 September and then began a series of raids on native villages, the most significant of which were at **Prophetstown** and on the **Mississinewa River**.

WAYNE, FORT, TREATY OF (30 September 1809). By this agreement, representatives of the **Miami**, **Delaware**, and **Potawatomi** nations negotiating with Governor **William Harrison** gave the **United States** rights to about three million acres of land in **Indiana** and **Illinois** in exchange for trade goods and annual payments and peaceful relations. This action raised the ire of **Tecumseh** and the **Prophet (Tenskwatawa)**, prompting the former to begin travels in the south in search of allies for his proposed native confederacy.

“WE HAVE MET THE ENEMY AND THEY ARE OURS.” In the hour after his victory against the British at the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September 1813), Captain **Oliver Perry** wrote a brief report for Major General **William Harrison** at the **Sandusky River**. The full text was, “We have met the enemy and they are ours: Two Ships, two Brigs one Schooner and one Sloop. Yours. With great respect and esteem.” The British **squadron** actually consisted of two **ships**, one **brig**, two **schooners**, and a **sloop**. As Perry became a national hero, his opening line was widely repeated and entered the popular lexicon.

WELLINGTON, ARTHUR WELLESLEY, DUKE OF (1769–1852). Born in Ireland, Arthur Wesley entered the **British army** as a **lieutenant** in 1787 and saw action in battle against the French in the 1790s. As **colonel**, by **purchase**, of the 33rd Regiment of Foot, he went to India in 1797. His brother, the Marquis of Wellesley (which surname Arthur adopted from 1798), was the viceroy and gave Ar-

thru the numerous opportunities he used to distinguish himself and earn a reputation as an efficient commander.

Wellesley was promoted to **major general** in 1802 and returned to England in 1805. After a successful campaign against Copenhagen, he was made a **lieutenant general** and sent to Portugal to fight the French. It was during the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) that Wellesley rose to prominence as one of Britain's greatest generals. For his successes in 1809, he was awarded a peerage and chose the title of the Viscount Wellington. His esteemed status made him an influential adviser for the British government, and he made pertinent observations about the conduct of the War of 1812. Some of the highly skilled **regiments** that fought with him in Portugal and Spain were sent to participate in the war during the spring of 1814 after Napoleon's abdication.

He remained in the army and became actively involved in politics, serving for two brief periods as prime minister. His fame made his name synonymous with that of Vice Admiral Lord Horatio Nelson.

WEST INDIES STATION. *See* RN STATIONS.

WEST POINT. *See* U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY.

“WESTERN INDIANS.” This term appears frequently in the British documents of 1814 in regard to operations on and near the **Niagara Peninsula**. It refers to the survivors of **Tecumseh's** last fight at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October) who had sought refuge with the British at **Burlington Heights** and probably included members of the **Chippawa, Creek, Delaware, Fox, Kickapoo, Ottawa, Potawatomi, Shawnee, and Winnebago** nations. Elements of these nations were present in the following actions: 1813, **Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December) and **Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December); 1814, **Chippawa** (5 July), **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September), the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August), and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September).

WHINYATES, THOMAS. This officer entered the **RN** in 1793 (his posting is uncertain) and received his **lieutenant's commission** in 1799. In 1805, he was promoted to **commander** and two years later

moved into HM Sloop *Frolic*. While convoying **merchantmen** to Britain on 18 October 1812, he encountered the U.S. Sloop *Wasp*, Master Commandant **Jacob Jones**, and, after a battle lasting nearly one hour, surrendered. Providentially, HMS *Poictiers*, Captain **John Beresford**, appeared shortly after the engagement, captured the *Wasp*, and recaptured the badly damaged *Frolic*. Whinyates was wounded in the battle but was fit enough to resume command. A **court-martial** convened to investigate the loss of the *Frolic* acquitted Whinyates of blame. He was then made a **post captain**, retroactive to 12 August, but the record is incomplete about his next service afloat. In 1846, he advanced to the rank of **rear admiral**, retired.

"WHY THESE ARE REGULARS!" Major General **Phineas Riall** is reputed to have uttered these words during the early stage of the **bat-tle of Chippawa** (5 July 1814) when he realized that the American force he was about to attack was not composed of an unruly mob of **militia** and, therefore, easy picking. At the moment, he was watching Brigadier General **Winfield Scott** march his **brigade** onto the battle-field and deploy it efficiently despite a heavy British **artillery** fire. Riall had been fooled by the short gray jackets (round coats or fatigue jackets) rather than the traditional U.S. **Army** deep blue coat-ees, which he took to be more typical of militia uniforms; the gray wool jackets had been the only outfits available for Scott's men.

WILKINSON, JAMES (1757–1825). Wilkinson was born in **Mary-land** and was trained to be a physician and had begun his practice when the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783) started. He was a patriot during the conflict, participated in numerous actions, and rose to the rank of **brigadier general**. Following the war, he lived in **Kentucky** Territory and, with the permission of Spanish au-thorities, undertook a profitable trade business on the Mississippi River. He grew wealthy through his marriage and land speculation.

Wilkinson early on earned a reputation for skulduggery, an attri-bute he continued to display after he joined the **U.S. Army** as a **lieu-tenant colonel** of the **Second Regiment of U.S. Infantry** in 1791, and rose to brigadier general in 1792. He was the senior commanding officer in the army from 1796 to 1798 and from 1800 to January 1812. He maintained his connection with the Spanish and was paid

well for information he passed to them, though such conduct was treasonous. In 1803, he commanded at St. Louis in the newly acquired **Louisiana Territory**, where between 1805 and 1807 he became involved in Aaron Burr's alleged plan to launch an unlawful military campaign into Mexican territories. His name was cleared during an inquiry, but his notoriety soared and was worsened when he was charged with neglect of duty in 1810 and for complicity with the Spanish; again, the case was unproven. Brigadier General **Wade Hampton** was sent to replace Wilkinson at the army post at Natchez, **Mississippi Territory**, which involved the two in a feud that grew in bitterness and divided the **commissioned** officers in the service.

Wilkinson was commanding at **New Orleans** when the war started, though local officials were trying to get rid of him. In March 1813, he was promoted to **major general** and ordered by Secretary of War **John Armstrong** to join the staff of Major General **Henry Dearborn** in **New York**. At the time Wilkinson was leading the expedition that seized **Mobile** from the Spanish without a fight on 15 April. He received his order from Armstrong in May and, demonstrating no concern for urgency, arrived at **Washington** on 31 July, by which time Dearborn had left his post and Wilkinson had inherited command of the **Ninth Military District**.

Armstrong discussed with Wilkinson military options for campaigning in the north: regain an aggressive motion on the **Niagara Peninsula**, attack **Kingston**, or join with a force from **Lake Champlain** to attack **Montreal**. Ostensibly, Armstrong left the decision for Wilkinson to make when he reached the lakes (though he continued to meddle in affairs), assuring him that he would make sure there were no complications with the commanding officer at **Burlington, Vermont**, who happened to be Wade Hampton. Wilkinson reached **Sackets Harbor** on 20 August and undertook deliberations that resulted in his disastrous **campaign on the St. Lawrence River** (October–November 1813).

The campaign was fraught with bad weather, logistical nightmares, and poor health among the troops, but Wilkinson's ineptitude and ill health (made worse, it appears, by his regular use of the painkiller laudanum) added significantly to its downfall. He was too sick to participate at all in the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November), sealing the fate of his expedition.

Wilkinson retreated to **French Mills, New York**, where there were inadequate supplies and housing. In January, he suggested to Armstrong that he would cross the St. Lawrence at **Ogdensburg** and occupy **Prescott** and then Kingston, where the troops would be fed and accommodated. Armstrong ordered him to break up his camp, send Brigadier General **Jacob Brown** to Sackets with a portion of the army, and march the rest to **Plattsburgh, New York**, and **Burlington, Vermont**. From there in March, Wilkinson attempted an invasion of **LC** by advancing up the **Richelieu River**, but this expedition came to grief at the **battle of Lacolle** (30 March 1814). He retreated to Plattsburgh.

Armstrong ordered Wilkinson to give up his command to Major General **George Izard** on 24 March and go to Lake George, New York, to face a court of inquiry into his failed campaign on the St. Lawrence. He refused the court for technical reasons and was in Washington during the British attack in August 1814. A **court-martial** was held in 1815, and he was acquitted but then discharged honorably from the army. Wilkinson produced a four-volume set of material about the war and his parts in it and then returned to New Orleans. He died in Mexico City while seeking land grants in Texas.

WILKINSON'S CAMPAIGN ON THE ST. LAWRENCE RIVER (October–November 1813). Major General **James Wilkinson** held a council of war at **Sackets Harbor** shortly after his arrival there on 20 August 1813 that included Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**, Major General **Morgan Lewis**, and Brigadier Generals **Jacob Brown** and Robert Swartout. After discussing campaign options, they identified an attack on **Montreal** in coordination with Major General **Wade Hampton's division** on **Lake Champlain** as their prime goal. Wilkinson sent this information to Secretary of War **John Armstrong** and asked him to inform Hampton that he expected to begin an expedition down the **St. Lawrence River** around 20 September.

Wilkinson then traveled to **Fort George**, where the Left Division of the army in the Ninth **Military District** under Brigadier General **John Boyd** had been pinned down by the British all summer. His goal was to make the British think that a new initiative was starting there, while he actually intended to move most of Boyd's force to Sackets Harbor. This latter plan was delayed while Chauncey and

Commodore **Sir James Yeo** vied for control of **Lake Ontario**; Wilkinson also took ill during September. Following the “**Burlington Races**” (28 September), Chauncey was able to cover Wilkinson’s movement of troops, which finally began on 1 October.

Boyd’s force was to combine with Lewis’s **division** at Sackets and then head down the St. Lawrence. The first boats set out on 16 October, but bad weather and poor logistical planning hampered the expedition’s progress. Armstrong had also arrived at Sackets with his staff and debated campaign goals with Wilkinson, leaving Chauncey convinced there would be a combined attack on Kingston similar to the **battles of York** (27 April 1813) and **Fort George** (27 May). Furthermore, Armstrong’s communications had prompted Hampton into action, leading to his defeat at the **battle on the Chateauguay** (26 October) and withdrawal of his force to Lake Champlain, ending any hope of coordination.

Wilkinson did not receive official word of Chateauguay until 6 November, by which time, much to Chauncey’s dismay and disgust, he had committed his force for an attack on Montreal. The journey from Sackets proved to be a nightmare because of horrendous weather, which fatigued and sickened the troops and destroyed order. The scores of boats were destined for a rendezvous point at **French Creek**, where the vanguard, a **brigade** under Brown, fought off a British attack on 1–2 November.

On 5 November, the American expedition set out from French Creek. It consisted of more than 7,300 officers and men, comprising Boyd’s First **Brigade** (**Fifth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and the **Twelfth** and **Thirteenth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Brown’s Second Brigade (**Sixth**, **Fifteenth**, and **Twenty-second U.S. Regiments of Infantry**); Brigadier General **Leonard Covington**’s Third Brigade (**Ninth**, **Sixteenth**, and **Twenty-fifth U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Swartout’s Fourth Brigade (**Eleventh**, **Fourteenth**, and **Twenty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry**), Colonel **Alexander Maccomb**’s Reserve Brigade (**Twentieth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, **Third U.S. Regiment of Artillery**, **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles**, and Albany Volunteers), a body of cavalry (**First** and **Second U.S. Regiments of Light Dragoons**), and artillery under Brigadier General **Moses Porter** (**Light** and **Second U.S. Regiments of Artillery**). Despite efforts to restore order to the expedition, it dissolved into

chaos and limped downriver, while Wilkinson's illness worsened and his control of the situation failed. The Americans did manage to pass the British batteries at **Prescott** successfully during the night of 6 November, and the next day Wilkinson began sending elements of his force to the Canadian side of the river to cover his advance and rear since the British had begun sniping at his flotilla.

Major General **Francis de Rottenburg**, at Kingston, had sent 800 **infantry** from the **1/49th** and **2/89th Regiments of Foot** to shadow Wilkinson's progress. This "corps of observation" departed from Kingston on 7 November in 60 **bateaux** and with an **RN** detachment under Commander **William Mulcaster** (HM Schooners ***Lord Beresford*** and ***Sir Sidney Smith*** and seven **gunboats**). Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison** commanded this force, which reached Prescott late on 8 November. Here Morrison added about six small **companies** of **regulars** to his corps (**Canadian Fencibles**, **Canadian Voltigeurs**, **1/49th Regiment of Foot flank** companies, and a company of **Royal Regiment of Artillery**), some **Provincial Light Dragoons**, **Commissariat Voyageurs**, and 30 **Mohawk** warriors from the **Tyendinaga** Tract to his corps, bringing its strength to about 1,200.

In the early hours of 9 November, the British corps headed downstream and shot a series of rapids. Hearing that the Americans had landed on Canadian soil, Morrison disembarked his military force 10 miles below Prescott while Mulcaster's flotilla (minus the **schooners**) continued in the river. Later that morning, the British made contact with the American rear guard. Sniping and skirmishing between the land forces and the opposing gunboats continued all that day and the next. Late on 10 November, the American flotilla halted at Cook's Point about 27 miles downstream from Prescott; Wilkinson was in such an impaired state of health that no one knew for sure who was in charge; Lewis had also taken seriously ill. Earlier that day, Major General Brown's advance force had fought the **skirmish at Hoople's Creek** (10 November) and then continued its march to secure Cornwall.

Continued skirmishing and confusion over orders resulted in the **battle of Crysler's Farm** being fought on 11 November 1813. It was a dramatic defeat for Wilkinson's army, which fled down the St. Lawrence, surviving the last stretch of rapids and then taking shelter at Cornwall on 12 November. The next day, Wilkinson declared the

campaign was over. He embarked his troops from Canadian soil on 13 November and proceeded to the **Salmon River**, where he took post six miles upstream at the settlement of **French Mills, New York**, two miles south of the border. Plans were made to go into winter quarters.

Morrison's corps moved down to Cornwall, and most officers expected **Sir George Prevost** to join forces with it for a full attack on Wilkinson before he could get established. Unwilling to risk the expedition, Prevost allowed Wilkinson to stay where he was despite his proximity to Montreal. Although Wilkinson had plans for a revised campaign against the British, Armstrong ordered him to break up his winter camp in February, sending part of his force to Sackets and the rest to **Plattsburgh**.

WILLCOCKS, JOSEPH (1773–1814). A native of Ireland, in 1800 Willcocks went to **UC**, where he held various civil posts, including the sheriff at **York** in 1804. He moved to **Niagara** in 1807, began a newspaper, and was elected to the provincial legislature. Willcocks was a strong opponent of the government, belonging to the radical group in the provincial legislature. Major General **Isaac Brock** won his allegiance, however, in 1812, and Willcocks supported the war effort and was present at the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812).

Willcocks resumed his antigovernment stance in the spring of 1813, turned traitor to the British, and attained the approval of Major General **Henry Dearborn** to form a "Corps of Volunteers," the **Canadian Volunteers**, in July. Beginning with 40 like-minded Canadians, this **unit** served as scouts for the Americans, kidnapped numerous local men of prominence, and increased in strength to over 100. "Major" Willcocks had a bitter, personal rivalry with **William Merritt**, whose father he kidnapped, and he and the Canadian Volunteers are reputed to have helped set the fires when Brigadier General **George McClure** ordered the **burning of Niagara** on 10 December 1813.

In January 1814, Willcocks went to **Washington**, where he sought funds from Secretary of War **John Armstrong** to increase the strength of the Canadian Volunteers. He and his officers received **commissions** in the **U.S. Army** (Willcocks became a **lieutenant col-**

onel), but he was restricted from increasing the size of his force. Returning to the **Buffalo** in May, he attached the Volunteers to a **brigade** under Brigadier General **Peter Porter** and was present at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July). The Volunteers continued to act as scouts, and Willcocks, who had been praised for his military leadership, assumed command of Porter's brigade when that officer was absent on recruitment. Willcocks was killed during a skirmish at **Fort Erie** on 5 September.

WINCHESTER, JAMES (1752–1826). Winchester was born in **Maryland**, fought during the **American War of Independence** (1775–1783), and settled thereafter in **Tennessee**. He was a successful farmer, miller, and merchant; held public offices; and, as a **militia** officer, had numerous clashes with the native peoples of the region.

In March 1812, Winchester was given the rank of **brigadier general** in the **U.S. Army** and the following August was ordered to march with the **Seventeenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** and 1,000 **Kentucky Militia** to support Brigadier General **William Hull's campaign on the Detroit River** (May–August 1812). Hull failed miserably, and for a short period Winchester held command of the **Army of the Northwest**. In September, however, Brigadier General **William Harrison** took command, and Winchester led a wing of Harrison's army to the lower **Maumee River**. Without authorization from Harrison, Winchester fought and won the first **battle of Frenchtown**, Michigan (18 January 1813), but lost most of his force in a **second battle** there on 22 January; this prompted a running feud between Harrison and him.

Winchester was held as a **prisoner of war** at **Quebec** until he was **exchanged** in April 1814. In the summer, he was assigned to the Seventh **Military District**, centered at **Mobile**. The British effected the **capture of Fort Bowyer at Mobile** (12 February 1815), and Winchester was subsequently criticized by Major General **Andrew Jackson** for not having been more active in defending the place. Winchester resigned his **commission** in 1815 to return to private life.

WIND GAUGE. Having the wind gauge in a naval action meant that a **ship** was upwind of its opponent and thereby had the tactical advantage.

WINDER, WILLIAM HENRY (1775–1824). A native of **Maryland**, Winder was well educated and became a prominent lawyer in **Baltimore**. He joined the **U.S. Army** as a **lieutenant colonel** in March 1812 and was made the **colonel** of the **Fourteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** the following July. He marched his **regiment** to encamp at **Black Rock, New York**, on the **Niagara River** that September but did not see any action.

In March 1813, Winder was promoted to **brigadier general**. In the **battle of Fort George** (27 May 1813), he led the second **brigade** of attackers ashore and engaged the British troops. Following the battle, Major General **Morgan Lewis** ordered Winder to lead his brigade, along with Brigadier General **John Chandler**'s brigade, in pursuit of Brigadier General **John Vincent**'s force. In the resulting **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813), Winder had the misfortune to be captured and ended up as one of the officers put in close confinement as part of a **retaliation** controversy between the British and Americans.

Winder was allowed to visit **Washington** on **parole** in April 1814 and eventually returned to Canada, where he helped mediate a solution to the retaliation controversy. In July, Madison placed Winder in command of the Tenth **Military District** around Washington and **Baltimore**, hoping to improve chances of getting support from Maryland Governor Levin Winder, the general's uncle. Secretary of War **John Armstrong** opposed the selection and refused any support to Winder who lacked the leadership skill to assess the actions of the British during Vice Admiral **Sir Alexander Cochrane**'s **Chesapeake Bay campaign** (March–September) and to coordinate **regular** and **militia** forces into a solid defense. This was revealed by the quick American defeat at the **battle of Bladensburg** (24 August) and the subsequent **burning of Washington** (24–25 August). The disaster was blamed on Winder, although others deserved a share of the blame, including the president, Armstrong, and Secretary of State **James Monroe**.

In Armstrong's absence (and eventual resignation), Monroe, acting as the new secretary of war, took command of most of the Tenth District and ordered Winder to serve under Major General **Samuel Smith**, of the **Maryland Militia** during the **attack on Baltimore** (12–15 September). Winder tried to get the decision reversed but failed and took command of a brigade under Smith but saw no battle-

field action. The convalescing **Winfield Scott** was given command of the Tenth Military District, while Winder was sent to the **Niagara Frontier** (again, opposite to his preference), where he arrived late in October and marched the remains of Major General **Jacob Brown's** Left Division of the Ninth Military District to **Sackets Harbor** without seeing any more action. Winder left the army in 1815 with an honorable discharge and resumed his career in law.

WINNEBAGO. The name of this nation derived from the Algonquin term "People of the Filthy Water." They were sometimes referred to by the French term "Puants." In 1812, they lived in villages scattered through southeastern **Wisconsin** and northwestern **Illinois Territory**. They were fully involved in the fur trade and sided with the British when the war began.

The Winnebago were involved in the **capture of Michilimackinac** (17 July 1812) and the **investment of Fort Harrison** (3–16 September). They joined with **Tecumseh** in 1813 and were present at the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July) and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August) and the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October), after which some survivors, the "**Western Indians**," joined the British at **Burlington Heights**. They later participated in the **raids on Lewiston and Manchester** (19 and 21 December) and the **raid at Black Rock and Buffalo** (30 December). In 1814, some warriors were probably at the **battles of Chippawa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July).

Winnebagos also participated in the **capture of Fort Shelby** (20 July 1814) and the **second skirmish at the Rock Island Rapids** (5 September 1814).

WINNEMAC (?–1812). This chief of the **Potawatomi** co-led, with **Five Medals**, the unsuccessful attack on **Fort Wayne** in September 1812. The following November, he was killed and scalped on the **Maumee River** by **Shawnee** scouts working for Brigadier General **James Winchester**.

WISCONSIN. In 1812, Wisconsin was part of the **Illinois Territory**, although the main fur-trading post at **Prairie du Chien** was held by the British.

WOLFE (RN). Renamed *Wolfe* shortly after launch and soon rated a **post ship** in Captain **Sir James Yeo's** **squadron** on **Lake Ontario**, this **ship** was renamed *Montreal* in 1814, laid up in 1817, and sold as a hulk in the 1830s.

Type: 22-gun **sixth-rate**. Launch: 1813, **Kingston, UC**, as *Sir George Prevost*. Actual armament: (1813) eight 18-pdr lg, one 24-pdr lg, 10 32-pdr crde, four 68-pdr crde. Dimensions: 101' 9" gd × 30' 6" × 11' dh, 426 tons. Crew: 130.

WOLFE ISLAND, UC. This island (18 miles long, five miles wide) sprawls at the confluence of **Lake Ontario** and the **St. Lawrence River**, creating the northern and southern channels. **Kingston, UC**, is located opposite its northwestern shore.

WOOD, ELEAZER DERBY (1783–1814). A native of **New York**, Wood graduated from the 1806 class of the **U.S. Military Academy** at West Point, New York, and was **commissioned** a second **lieutenant** in the **U.S. Corps of Engineers**. He rose to **captain** in July 1812 and was assigned to participate in then–Brigadier General **William Harrison's campaign in the Northwest** (September 1812–October 1813). Wood was subordinate to Captain Charles Gratiot (also a graduate of 1806 though made captain in 1808), who was the chief engineer in Harrison's **division**. Gratiot laid out the plan for **Fort Meigs**, but when he fell ill, Wood took over most of the construction of the mammoth works, which survived the British **siege** of May 1813 and the **investment** that July. Wood also built **Fort Stephenson**, which withstood the British assault on 2 August. For these services, he was **brevetted** to **major**.

In 1814, Wood was the assistant engineer during Major General **Jacob Brown's campaign on the Niagara River** (July–October). He commanded **artillery batteries** at the **battles of Chippewa** (5 July) and **Lundy's Lane** (25 July), after which Brown had him brevetted to **lieutenant colonel** in recognition of his valor and skill. Wood was instrumental in the redesign and improvements made to **Fort Erie** during July and August and then performed so well during the British **assault on Fort Erie** (14 August) that he was brevetted to **colonel**. With that rank, he took an active leadership in the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), during which he received his mortal wound.

In honor of Wood's brief but valorous career, a monument was raised at the U.S. Military Academy, and fortifications on Bedloe's Island in the New York City harbor were named for him. Fort Wood eventually became the base for the Statue of Liberty.

WOOL, JOHN ELLIS (1784–1869). A resident of **New York** and training to be a lawyer, in April 1812 Wool obtained a **captain's commission** in the **Thirteenth U.S. Regiment of Infantry**, which arrived at the **Niagara Frontier** just days before the **battle of Queenston Heights** (13 October). Wool was in the first wave of American attackers, and after Lieutenant Colonel **Solomon Van Rensselaer** was wounded, he held command of the force and captured the **redan battery** just below **Queenston Heights**. He was badly wounded and evacuated from the battlefield. He was promoted to **major** of the **Twenty-ninth U.S. Regiment of Infantry** in April 1813 and in September 1814 played a significant role in the defense of **Plattsburgh**, for which he was promoted to **lieutenant colonel**.

Wool remained in the army and served with distinction at numerous posts, achieving considerable fame during the Mexican War in the 1840s. He saw limited action in the American Civil War and retired in 1863 as a **major general**.

WOOLSEY, MELANCTHON TAYLOR (1780–1838). Born in **New York**, Woolsey began training in law but then joined the **USN** as a **midshipman** in 1800. He saw action during the **Tripolitan War** (1801–1805) and was advanced to **lieutenant** in 1807. In 1808, Woolsey was sent to **Oswego, New York**, to oversee the building of the first **USN** vessel on the Great Lakes, the U.S. Brig *Oneida*. He established the naval station at **Sackets Harbor** and began forming the **Lake Ontario squadron** in 1812 before Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** arrived. Woolsey participated in most of the naval expeditions and actions under Chauncey and shared command of the U.S. forces who won the **skirmish on Sandy Creek** (30 May 1814). He was promoted to **master commandant** in 1813 and **captain** in 1816 and remained in the **USN** (though burdened with financial problems) and rose to **commodore** in 1832.

WORSLEY, MILLER (1791–1835). At the age of 11 years, this officer entered the **RN** as a **first-class volunteer** in 1803. He became a

midshipman in March 1805 and was present in HMS *Swiftsure* (where **Robert Barclay** was a **lieutenant**) at the battle of Trafalgar (21 October 1805). The veteran of numerous engagements with the French, Worsley passed the lieutenantancy examination in October 1810. He did not rise to this rank, however, until February 1813, when Admiral **Sir John Warren** assigned him to be one of six lieutenants who accompanied Barclay to Canada from **Bermuda**.

Most of Barclay's detachment reached **Kingston, UC**, late in April 1813 and took up positions in what soon became Commodore **Sir James Yeo's squadron**. Worsley served in this **squadron** throughout 1813 and was probably present at all its engagements with American forces, though he rarely received a mention. He rose to be first lieutenant in HMS *Princess Charlotte* under Captain **William Mulcaster**.

In July 1814, Yeo ordered Worsley to go with surgeon W. D. Thomas (**104th Regiment of Foot**) to **Michilimackinac** to replace Lieutenant Newdigate Poyntz, RN, who had gone up in the spring with a small party of seamen but gotten into a dispute with Lieutenant Colonel **Robert McDouall**. Worsley arrived at the mouth of the **Nottawasaga River** early in August and replaced Poyntz, who arrived with the **schooner Nancy**, a midshipman, and 21 seamen. On 14 August, a force under Captain **Arthur Sinclair** destroyed the *Nancy*, after which Worsley set out in two **bateaux** to deliver supplies to Michilimackinac. Along the way, he spotted the U.S. Schooners *Tigress* and *Scorpion* (1813) and with reinforcements from McDouall captured the vessels on 3 and 6 September, respectively. For this, he was highly praised and in July 1815 promoted to **commander**.

Worsley, who had fallen ill near the end of the war, spent years on **half pay** before being made the inspecting commander of preventive boats ("sea rescue" craft) on the Isle of Wight shortly before his death.

WYANDOT. Descendants of the Huron nation, the "People of the Peninsula," the Wyandots occupied **Brownstown** and **Maguaga** near the **Detroit River** and settlements on the **Sandusky River** in 1812. Some of their warriors had been at the **battle of Tippecanoe** (7 November 1811).

Wavering between neutrality and support of the Americans, the

Detroit River people were convinced by **Tecumseh** to ally themselves with the British and joined the native force under him at **Bois Blanc Island** at **Amherstburg** early in August 1812. They formed part of the unsuccessful **British expedition against Fort Wayne** (September). The actions in which they were involved in 1813 included **Frenchtown** (18 and 22 January), the **siege and investment of Fort Meigs** (May, July), and the **assault on Fort Stephenson** (2 August).

After the latter action, Wyandots on the Sandusky River, who had remained neutral, joined the American army under Major General **William Harrison** and fought at the **battle of Moraviantown** (5 October 1813). In 1814, they were involved in actions at **Longwoods** (4 March), **Michilimackinac** (4 August), and **Malcolm's Mills** (6 November).

Representatives from Wyandot tribes signed the **Treaty of Greenville** (22 July 1814) to ally themselves with the U.S. government and the **Treaty of Spring Wells** (8 September 1815) with American officials to formally end hostilities.

– X –

XEBEC FRIGATE. These armed vessels, favored by the Barbary states (currently Morocco, Algiers, Tunisia, and Libya), had two masts featuring a **lateen-rig** and were armed with about 20 guns. They were powerful and fast and could be rowed in a lull.

– Y –

YEO, SIR JAMES LUCAS (1782–1818). Sir James, the son of an agent victualler to the **RN**, was born at Southampton, England, and joined the **RN** as a volunteer in 1793. He became a **midshipman** shortly thereafter, a **lieutenant** in 1797, **commander** in 1805, and **post captain** in 1807. He had wide experience in battle against the French and their allies on sea and land and earned praise for his bravery, intelligence, and energy; he was made a **KCB** in 1810. In 1812, he commanded HMS *Southampton* and captured the U.S. Brig

Vixen on 22 November 1812 but lost both vessels on a shoal in the Bahamas.

Yeo received orders to lead an RN detachment as **commodore** to the Great Lakes in February 1813, and he departed from England at the end of March with 465 officers and men. They reached **Quebec** on 5 May, and Yeo and the first detachment were at **Kingston, UC**, 10 days later, in company with **Sir George Prevost**. Yeo now took command of all British warships on the lakes, although he answered to Prevost, Admiral **Sir John Warren** at **Halifax**, and the **Admiralty**.

Yeo quickly improved and manned the **Lake Ontario** squadron and transported a military force on the expedition that led to the **battle of Sackets Harbor** (29 May). It is said that he disagreed with Prevost's approval of the retreat at that affair, the first contentious issue in what would become an uneasy relationship.

Yeo carried reinforcements to Brigadier General **John Vincent**'s force at **Burlington Heights** and helped chase the American army under Major General **Morgan Lewis** back to **Fort George** following the **battle of Stoney Creek** (6 June 1813). He proceeded to raid the American shoreline (**Charlotte**, 15 June; **Sodus**, 19 June) and was ready early in August to vie with Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**'s **squadron** for control of the lake. The two never fought a decisive battle, although Yeo narrowly evaded defeat at the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September). About this time, Commander **Robert Barclay** claimed that Yeo had not supported his squadron adequately before the **battle of Put-in-Bay** (10 September), and Prevost was critical of Yeo for allowing **Chauncey's capture of a troop convoy** (6 October). Yeo provided plenty of support to Major General **John Vincent**'s army during the **blockade of Fort George**, and a detachment of his men went with the force under Lieutenant Colonel **Joseph Morrison** that eventually fought the **battle of Crysler's Farm** (11 November).

Realizing he needed more heavily gunned **ships**, Yeo got approval to build the **frigates** *Prince Regent* and *Princess Charlotte* and, later, the **first-rate St. Lawrence** (1814) at Kingston. In April, the Admiralty formed the Great Lakes command into a formal establishment and made Yeo, still as commodore, the commander in chief on the lakes with direct responsibility to the Admiralty.

The new frigates played a key role during the joint operation with Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond** at the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May 1814) and in supplying the army on the **Niagara Peninsula** and **blockading** Chauncey's squadron at Sackets until early July. Yeo kept his larger vessels at Kingston through the summer until the *St. Lawrence* was ready for service; Prevost and Drummond criticized him for not carrying men and supplies to Drummond at Niagara and for monopolizing resources to build this last ship. Yeo made two voyages with men and supplies in the *St. Lawrence* and the rest of the vessels during October and November and then laid his squadron up for the winter. HMS *Psyche*, one of the **frigates-in-frame** from England, was launched on 25 December but was not fitted out until the war was over.

The outcome of the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September 1814) also rested indirectly on Yeo's shoulders, although he pressed charges thereafter against Prevost for goading Captain **George Downie** into action before he was ready. These charges led to Prevost's recall to England early in 1815 and also provided a reason to recall Yeo and end his less-than-successful term on the lakes. The Admiralty had also criticized Yeo for not submitting full reports on all aspects of his command and required an explanation for the circumstances surrounding the **Yeo-Fisher controversy**. Commodore Edward Owen arrived to replace him in March 1815.

Yeo was soon made commodore of a squadron sent to subdue the slave trade between Africa and the West Indies. His command was successful, but, long troubled by aftereffects of a previous bout of malaria, Yeo died of a fever on a passage home and was buried at Portsmouth.

YEO-FISHER CONTROVERSY. This matter came to the notice of the **Admiralty** and was a side issue in the decision to recall Commodore **Sir James Yeo** to England late in 1814. After Captain **Peter Fisher** arrived in June 1814 at **Kingston, UC**, as part of the 900-man detachment sent from England under Captain **George Downie**, Yeo sent him to take command of the **Lake Champlain** squadron at **Isle-aux-Noix, LC**. Abruptly, at the end of August, Yeo replaced Fisher with Downie. Fisher protested the change of command to Yeo and to the Admiralty. Yeo later stated his reasons as having been that Fish-

er's intemperance and violent temper were detriments to such an important command. Fisher returned to Kingston and added to his protest that Yeo posted him to HMS *Montreal*, which he felt was far below what he deserved, especially since Yeo had placed another officer, of slightly less seniority, in the larger *Princess Charlotte*. When the Admiralty received Fisher's correspondence, they immediately required an explanation from Yeo. There is some evidence that **Sir George Prevost** thought highly of Fisher, but the implication of this, combined with the effect that the sudden change in command at Isle-aux-Noix had on the **battle of Plattsburgh** (11 September), has never been fully explored. Details about the final resolution of this matter are lacking.

YEO'S SQUADRON. Although Commodore **Sir James Yeo** oversaw the British warships on all the lakes, he directly commanded the **squadron** on **Lake Ontario**. When he sailed out of **Kingston** late in May 1813, the squadron consisted of the *Wolfe*, *Royal George*, *Earl of Moira*, *Lord Beresford*, and *Sir Sidney Smith*. In July, he added the newly launched *Lord Melville* to his line, increasing his strength to 78 **carronades** (crde) and 19 **long guns** (lg). His vessels were crewed mainly by **RN** officers and men, supplemented by former **PM** members (now enlisted with the **RN**) and detachments of the **Royal Newfoundland Fencible Regiment**, and, for brief periods, companies of the **1/1st** and **100th Regiments of Foot**, acting as **marines**. Yeo adjusted the **ordnance** in his vessels several times in 1813 but was never able to mount sufficient lgs to match the lg strength of Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's squadron**. As a result, Yeo had to keep his distance from Chauncey when they met in August and September and look for opportunities to close and utilize his numerous crdes, such as at the **capture of the Julia and Growler** (which he briefly added to his line) on 10 August. His highly experienced crews, strengthened as more **RN** detachments reached Kingston, handled the vessels with skill and helped evade defeat at the **engagement off the Genesee River** (11 September) and the "**Burlington Races**" (28 September). An adjunct to the Lake Ontario squadron was the flotilla of **gunboats** that operated on the **St. Lawrence River**.

In 1814, Yeo increased the long-range firepower of his squadron with the launch of the **frigates** *Prince Regent* and *Princess Char-*

lotte. Chauncey was constructing four vessels during this period, which is often referred to as the “**shipbuilders’ war**.” The British warships on the lakes were formally added to the **Admiralty** list at the end of April, resulting in name changes for the 1813 squadron. Strengthened by detachments from the RN and the **Royal Marines**, Yeo’s 1814 squadron sailed in May with 122 crdes and 65 lgs. When Chauncey sailed with his 1814 squadron in July, Yeo believed he was outgunned again and withdrew his larger vessels to Kingston, where the **first-rate St. Lawrence (1814)** was under construction. He sent his four smaller vessels to carry men and supplies between York and Niagara in support of the army. When it sailed in October, the *St. Lawrence* added a further 36 crdes and 68 lgs to his line, prompting Chauncey to return to **Sackets Harbor**. As 1814 ended, Yeo’s force controlled Lake Ontario. The frigate *Pysche* was launched late in December, and two more first-rates were under construction when peace came.

YORK, UC. Situated on the modern site of Toronto, Ontario, York was founded in 1793 and became the capital of UC in 1796. By 1812, its population was about 700 with another 750 living in the immediate vicinity.

YORK, UC, BATTLE OF (27 April 1813). At **Sackets Harbor**, Major General **Henry Dearborn** and Commodore **Isaac Chauncey**, in consultation with Secretary of War **John Armstrong** and Secretary of the Navy **William Jones**, had intended to make **Kingston** and the upper **St. Lawrence River** their first objective in the 1813 campaign. They decided to attack **York** in April for a number of reasons: ice blocked access to Kingston, two warships were believed to be under construction at York, and a significant victory early in the campaign was needed.

After an aborted attempt to sail on 24 April, Chauncey’s squadron, consisting of 14 vessels, left Sackets Harbor on 25 April and arrived off York before dawn on 27 April. It carried about 1,700 officers and men from the **Sixth, Thirteenth, Fourteenth, Fifteenth, Sixteenth, and Twenty-first U.S. Regiments of Infantry**; a company each of the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** and the **First and Third U.S.**

Regiments of Artillery; and a **battalion** of volunteers from **New York** and **Maryland**.

Major General **Sir Roger Sheaffe**, who was in York attending to business in the provincial legislature, commanded about 360 **regu-lars**, including elements of the **1/8th Regiment of Foot**, the **Royal Newfoundland Fencibles**, the **Royal Regiment of Artillery**, the **1/49th Regiment of Foot**, and the **Provincial Marine**. There were also about 350 of the **York** and **Durham Militia** and dockyard hands and 40 to 50 members of the **Mississauga** and **Ojibwa** nations present. While keeping a reserve to guard the eastern flank of the town, Sheaffe sent his main strength in force to oppose the American landing.

Dearborn gave command of the attack to Brigadier General **Zebu-lon Pike**. Under cover of a barrage from Chauncey's vessels, the military landed about one mile west of **Fort York** early on 27 April. Among the first on shore was a **company** of the **First U.S. Regiment of Rifles** under Lieutenant Colonel **Benjamin Forsyth**, which was opposed just before 9:00 A.M. by the **grenadier company** of the 8th Foot under Captain Neal McNeale. The most severe fighting of the day took place here with the British suffering the worst (McNeale was killed) and falling back. The rest of the 8th and the Royal Newfoundland Fencibles were unable to stop the American landing, while the **militia** and Glengarries, after being sent forward by a roundabout route, missed most of the action.

The entire American force landed and proceeded toward Fort York more or less unopposed. An outlying battery blew up by accident, and the British pulled back beyond the **fort**.

Sheaffe order the **Sir Isaac Brock** under construction in the dock-yard to be burned along with all naval stores and prepared to withdraw with the remnants of his force, leaving the militia to surrender the town. However, Sheaffe also ordered the grand **magazine** at the fort to be detonated. Pike brought his men within 400 yards of the fort, formed them to receive an attack, and had them stand at ease. When the magazine erupted, the debris caused about 250 American casualties. Pike was mortally wounded and command devolved to Colonel **Cromwell Pearce**.

The militia leaders surrendered the town, which the Americans quickly occupied. Some troops roamed amok, vandalizing and steal-

ing and burning the provincial legislature and other buildings. The citizens protested, and with some difficulty Dearborn and Chauncey were able to withdraw their men, but persistent bad weather kept most of the squadron at anchor until 8 May, by which time fatigue and sickness had greatly weakened the force. Most of the army was soon landed near **Fort Niagara**, while York was left unoccupied.

The cost to the British was 66 killed and 71 wounded or missing, while the Americans lost 55 dead and 265 wounded. Sheaffe escaped with about 200 regulars and marched to Kingston, but he was heavily criticized for losing York and was soon replaced by Major General **Francis de Rottenburg** as commander in UC. Most of the York and Durham militia and others eagerly accepted **parole** so that they would not have to fight again. The naval yard at York was destroyed in this first significant American victory on land in the northern war. Chauncey seized the dismantled PM Schooner ***Duke of Gloucester*** and a large amount of naval stores, but the battle greatly weakened the army, robbed it of the promising Zebulon Pike, and delayed the timing of the attack on **Fort George**. Its gains hardly outweighed the costs.

YORK, UC, AMERICAN RAID AT (31 July–1 August 1813). Commodore **Isaac Chauncey** brought his **squadron** to anchor off **York, UC**, on 31 July. A force went ashore under Lieutenant Colonel **Winfield Scott** to search for supplies. They freed prisoners in the jail, made wounded soldiers their captives (on paper), and confiscated British military baggage left there and whatever else they could find. The next day, they found a number of **bateaux** that had been hidden and carted off 400 barrels of food. Just before they left later that day, they set fire to **barracks**, a wood yard, and a storehouse on Gibraltar Point, opposite the town, as retribution for the British **raid on Sodus, New York** (19 June 1813).

YORK COUNTY MILITIA, UC. York County was located around **York** and was part of the Home District of UC. **Flank companies** were formed from its three **infantry regiments** in 1812, as were a **troop** of **dragoons** and a **company** of **rifles**. Elements of the York militia participated in the actions at **Detroit** (16 August 1812), **Queenston Heights** (13 October 1812), and **York** (27 April 1813).

YORK, FORT. The British established their first defensive works at **York** in 1793 at the mouth of the bay and about a mile from the eventual settlement. In 1813, it was a weak **fortification**, consisting of a roughly triangular work with a combination of earthen **ramparts** and **palisades** enclosing a **blockhouse**, **barracks**, and storehouses. It had three **batteries** and a small **garrison**.

YORK (USN). *See* **DUKE OF GLOUCESTER**.

– Z –

ZEHENDER, FRIEDRICH SAMUEL (?–1823). This officer joined the **British army** as a **lieutenant** in **De Watteville's Regiment** in 1801; his brother Karl Anton joined at the same time. He was promoted to **captain** in 1806 and saw action in the **Peninsular War** (1808–1814) before going to Canada with the **regiment** in 1813.

Zehender was present during the **blockade of Fort George** (July–September 1813) and then, along with two **companies** of his regiment, was made a **prisoner of war** during Commodore **Isaac Chauncey's capture of a troop convoy on Lake Ontario** (6 October 1813). He was **exchanged** the following spring and was present during the **assault on Oswego** (5–6 May) and was with Lieutenant General **Gordon Drummond's** Right Division on the **Niagara Peninsula**. He saw action during the **siege of Fort Erie** (August–September) and participated in the **assault on Fort Erie** (15 August) and the **Fort Erie sortie** (17 September), where he was again captured. Zehender went on **half pay** in 1815 and ended his days at Bern, Switzerland.

Bibliography

INTRODUCTION

Donald R. Hickey was right on two accounts in his recent review of War of 1812 literature: a lot has been written about the war, and a lot still needs to be done. The sources here will provide the reader with a firm background for many of the topics, but they also indicate where coverage is thin and potential fields of inquiry lie. Fortunately, the primary information needed to explore these topics is accessible in the holdings of the Library and Archives of Canada in Ottawa; the National Archives (Public Record Office) of Britain in Kew, England; the United States National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C.; and countless historical societies, libraries, and museums across the provinces and states and in distant lands.

Of the general histories of the war, the single best treatment continues to be J. Mackay Hitsman's *The Incredible War of 1812* (1965, 1999). Hickey emphasizes the American political scene in *The War of 1812: A Forgotten Conflict* (1990), and brief but competent studies are Wesley Turner's *The War of 1812: The War That Both Sides Won* (1990) and Carl Benn's *The War of 1812* (2002).

Although they concern causes of the war and military strategies, the general naval studies have been grouped separately here. The classic works by William James (*A Full and Correct Account of the Chief Naval Occurrences . . .*, 1817, 2004), Theodore Roosevelt (*The Naval War of 1812*, 1882, 1987), and Alfred T. Mahan (*Sea Power in Its Relations to the War of 1812*, 1905) are still the main comprehensive treatments of the overall naval operations.

Documentaries essential to the study of aspects of the war are the nine volumes of E. A. Cruikshank's *The Documentary History of the Campaign upon the Niagara Frontier 1812–1814* (1896–1908) and the three volumes (1985, 1992, 2002; a fourth in press) of *The Naval War*

of 1812: *A Documentary History*, edited by William S. Dudley (vols. 1 and 2), and William J. Crawford (vol. 3).

John C. Fredriksen has an extensive knowledge of the 1812 material, making his resource books important, particularly his *War of 1812 Eyewitness Accounts: An Annotated Bibliography* (1997). David and Jeanne Heidler's *Encyclopedia of the War of 1812* (1997) is a widely used work. Richard Buel's *Historical Dictionary of the Early American Republic* (2005) provides a general political and economic background to the decision by the United States to enter the war and its policies and actions during the war.

The seminal studies of the causes of the war are still Reginald Horsman's *The Causes of the War of 1812* (1962) and Bradford Perkins's *Prologue to War: England and the United States, 1805–1812* (1961). Hickey's "American Trade Restrictions during the War of 1812" (1981) covers the complex trade issue well, while "Anthony Merry and the Anglo-American Dispute about Impressment, 1803–1806," by Anthony Steel, establishes some little-known background. One of the few recent treatments of events leading to the war is the important *Injured Honor: The Chesapeake–Leopard Affair, June 22, 1807* (1996) by Spencer C. Tucker and Frank T. Reuter.

Concerning James Madison and his cabinet, there is no end of resources. The best one about Madison is still J. C. A. Stagg's *Mr. Madison's War: Politics, Diplomacy, and Warfare in the Early American Republic, 1783–1830* (1983). Robert V. Remini's study, *Henry Clay: Statesman for the Union* (1991), focuses on one aspect of policy formation and peacemaking during Madison's administration. Little exists concerning the British administrations, although *British Generals in the War of 1812: High Command in the Canadas* (1999) by Turner covers Sir George Prevost and his key subordinate officers, and Brian Jenkins's *Henry Goulburn, 1784–1856: A Political Biography* (1996) provides some coverage of relevant British policies.

Sources concerning the armies and regiments abound, but two titles that are indispensable are Francis B. Heitman's *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army from Its Organization, September 29, 1789 to March 2, 1903* (1903, 1994) and Stuart Sutherland's *His Majesty's Gentlemen: A Directory of Regular British Army Officers of the War of 1812* (2000).

As mentioned previously, there is no recent study of the overall naval

operations, nor has either navy been examined in terms of the war alone. Two treatments of the navies that provide important background information, however, are Brian Lavery, *Nelson's Navy: The Ships, Men and Organization, 1793–1815* (1989), and Christopher McKee, *A Gentlemanly and Honorable Profession: The Creation of the U.S. Naval Officers Corps, 1794–1815* (1991).

For an excellent coverage of the roles of the aboriginal nations, see Benn's *The Iroquois in the War of 1812* (1998) and John Sugden's *Tecumseh: A Life* (1997).

To form a comprehensive view of the war in the Old Northwest, these works might be read in combination: Sandy Antal, *A Wampum Denied: Procter's War of 1812* (1997); Reginald Horsman, "William Henry Harrison: Virginia Gentleman in the Old Northwest" (2000); Philip Mason, ed., *After Tippecanoe: Some Aspects of the War of 1812* (1963); and Sugden, *Tecumseh's Last Stand* (1985). Cruikshank's "The Contest for the Command of Lake Erie in 1812 and 1813" (1899), "General Hall's Invasion of Canada in 1812" (1907), and "Harrison and Procter: The River Raisin" (1911) are thorough and accurate, and critics have praised *A Signal Victory: The Lake Erie Campaign, 1812–1813* (1997) by David C. Skaggs and Gerard T. Altoff.

Recent books have also focused on the operations around Lake Ontario. Robert Malcomson's *Lords of the Lake: The Naval War on Lake Ontario, 1812–1814* (1988) has been termed a complete and balanced treatment of the subject, whereas commendable studies of more specific topics include Richard V. Barbuto, *Niagara 1814: American Invades Canada* (2000); Donald E. Graves, *Where Right and Glory Lead! The Battle of Lundy's Lane, 1814* (1997) and *Field of Glory: The Battle of Chrysler's Farm, 1813* (1999); Malcomson, *A Very Brilliant Affair: The Battle of Queenston Heights, 1812* (2003); and Joseph Whitehorne, *While Washington Burned: The Battle of Fort Erie, 1814* (1992).

Although some recent publications have covered matters in the Lake Champlain corridor, the best works continue to be Cruikshank's "From Isle aux Noix to Chateaugay: A Study of the Military Operations on the Frontier of Lower Canada in 1812 and 1813" (1913/1914), Allan S. Everest's *The War of 1812 in the Champlain Valley* (1981), and Kevin J. Crisman's *The Eagle: An American Brig on Lake Champlain during the War of 1812* (1987). Fredriksen's article ". . . General George

Izard's *Journal on the Chateauguay Campaign*" (1995) makes for insightful reading.

There are some good studies of the war in Chesapeake Bay, including Christopher T. George, *Terror on the Chesapeake: The War of 1812 on the Bay* (2000); Walter Lord, *The Dawn's Early Light* (1972); Anthony S. Pitch, *The Burning of Washington: The British Invasion of 1814* (1998); and Whitehorne's *The Battle for Baltimore, 1814* (1997).

Robin Reilly's *The British at the Gate: The New Orleans Campaign in the War of 1812* (1974, 2002) is justifiably considered the classic study of the action at New Orleans, but these other titles make significant contributions to the topic: Wilburt S. Brown, *The Amphibious Campaign for West Florida and Louisiana, 1814–1815: A Critical Review of Strategy and Tactics at New Orleans* (1969); Frank Lawrence Owsley Jr., *Struggle for the Gulf Borderlands: The Creek War and the Battle of New Orleans, 1812–1815* (1981); and Arsène Lacarrière Latour, *Historical Memoir of the War in West Florida and Louisiana in 1814–1815* (1816), edited by Gene A. Smith and republished (1999).

There has been no work that has focused only on the ship-to-ship actions of the war as a whole. Representative of some of the best examinations of individual cruises and engagements are Ira Dye's *The Fatal Cruise of the Argus: Two Captains in the War of 1812* (1994), Stephen W. H. Duffy's *Captain Blakeley and the Wasp: The Cruise of 1814* (2001), and Peter Padfield's *Broke and the Shannon* (1968). Wade G. Dudley raised some important issues recently in his *Splintering the Wooden Wall: The British Blockade of the United States, 1812–1815* (2003).

Subjects contingent to warfare have received less attention than the battles. Donald A. Petrie clarified the profits of capture in his *The Prize Game: Lawful Looting on the High Seas in the Days of Fighting Sail* (1999). Anthony G. Dietz provided the only comprehensive study of human captives in his *The Prisoner of War in the United States during the War of 1812* (1964). Altoff brought the subject of minorities into the light with *Amongst My Best Men: African-Americans and the War of 1812* (1996). And George Sheppard undertook to illuminate societal conflicts in *Plunder, Profit and Paroles: A Social History of the War of 1812 in Upper Canada* (1994).

The making of peace to end the war has not been a popular topic, and these titles are still central to the topic: Fred L. Engleman, *The Peace*

of *Christmas Eve* (1962); Dudley Mills, “The Duke of Wellington and the Peace Negotiations at Ghent in 1814” (1921); C. P. Stacey, “The Myth of the Unguarded Frontier, 1815–1871” (1950); and W. Sheridan Warwick, “The American Indian Policy in the Upper Old Northwest Following the War of 1812” (1956). And everyone should read Stephen Jay Gould’s fascinating connection between “George Canning’s Left Buttock . . .” (1989) and the Treaty of Ghent, if only for an appreciation of cause and effect.

Many of the newspapers listed here are extant in full. They carried identical public dispatches but also had many insightful local anecdotes and editorials that add color and context to the war narratives.

In this age of Google, information on the War of 1812 is only as far away as a thoughtful search on the Internet. There is not space enough to list all the available websites, nor would that be particularly relevant a year or two from this printing. However, during the research for this dictionary, I have surfed far and wide, and from the most authoritative and convenient websites, I have constructed the list that completes the bibliography.

Finally, two indispensable pieces of software concerning RN personnel have been noted here.

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About the Author

Robert Malcomson was an elementary schoolteacher from 1969 until 2002. He obtained a B.A. in psychology from Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, in 1976 and a master of education from Brock in 1980. During his career, he taught all the subjects in all the grades from 1 through 8. He lives with his wife, Janet, in St. Catharines, where they pursue a busy life in blissful retirement.

In the 1970s, Malcomson began a freelance writing career, eventually publishing a wide range of articles in magazines, journals, and newspapers in Canada, the United States, and Britain. Since the late 1980s, Malcomson has focused on historical matters, particularly the War of 1812. His books include *HMS Detroit: The Battle for Lake Erie* (1990), coauthored with his brother Thomas; *Sailors of 1814: Memoirs and Letters of Naval Officers on Lake Ontario* (1997); *Lords of the Lake: The Naval War on Lake Ontario, 1812–1814* (1998); *Warships of the Great Lakes, 1754–1834* (2001); and *A Very Brilliant Affair: The Battle of Queenston Heights, 1812* (2003). He has also contributed articles to several books and frequently presents lectures to historical societies and at conferences. He is currently undertaking studies into the battle of York, 1813, and the ship-to-ship actions of the War of 1812.